

# Bay **B.A.R.** Reporter

VOL. XXIV NO. 1 JANUARY 6, 1994

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

## Noe St. Robbery Reported

by Dennis Conkin

Three juveniles are in custody, facing strong-arm robbery charges, after they allegedly used a gun to rob a man at 17th and Noe Street on Monday, January 3.

The name of the victim was not released by the police at press time, and names of the suspects are being withheld because they are minors.

According to a police report on the incident, the victim was walking down Noe near 17th Street around 7:30, when a youth came up to him, pressed a gun to his stomach, and ordered him to give up his wallet.

The victim threw the wallet to the ground, after which two other juveniles allegedly joined the first, frisked the victim, took the wallet, and fled down Noe Street.

A police officer responding to a call for assistance in the robbery observed one of the suspects walking down Noe, repeatedly turning his head in the officer's direction. The suspect then got into a car, parked at Noe and 17th, and drove off.

Officers stopped the car, after which the suspects were taken from the vehicle and transported to the Youth Guidance Center, where they are being held on the robbery charges at press time.

The victim was not injured in the incident, which was not classified as a hate crime. ▼



### Dousing the boys in blue

Obviously getting a kick from her champagne is this New Year's Eve celebrant, who rings out the old and rings in the new at 18th and Castro while anointing a patrol car with a little bubbly. Hope this SFPD cruiser wasn't getting overtime for its late-night "work."

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

## Tim Lowe May Not Face Murder One Rap

by Dennis Conkin

Wearing the trademark orange sweatshirt and drawstring pants of a San Francisco County jail inmate, and clutching a paperback novel entitled *The Dungeon*, former Falcon adult film star and Campus Theatre erotic dancer Tim Lowe made a brief appearance in Municipal Court on Wednesday, January 5.

Lowe, whose birth name is David Cody, has been in jail on murder charges since he and a companion were arrested last January at a police roadblock in New Mexico, driving the car of Allen Kinkead, his former roommate. After Kinkead's bound body had been found in his San Francisco residence earlier that month, a warrant for Cody's arrest was issued by San Francisco District Attor-

ney Arlo Smith.

Cody went before Municipal judge Dominic Olcomendy to determine whether there is enough evidence to bind the defendant over for trial in Superior Court. But after the testimony of San Francisco Medical Examiner Dr. Boyd Stevens, regarding medical evidence obtained in Kinkead's autopsy, and Cody's statements to homicide inspectors after his ar-

rest, Cody may not face murder charges at all, according to Assistant District Attorney Bill Fazio.

"I've spent a lot of time on this case," Fazio told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I've come to the conclusion that the evidence indicates the acts committed by the defendant amount to involuntary manslaughter," Fazio said.

Fazio said that Stevens's (Continued on page 4)

## Michael Callen, Entertainer, Activist, and Longterm PWA, Dies

by Karen Ocamb

"Since I have a shorter time to live than others, I must live more quickly." — Greta Garbo in *Camille*

Monday, December 27, 1993, 6:30 p.m. A near-full moon climbed into the clear blue-black Los Angeles sky the night Michael Callen died. Very fey gay stars seemed to twinkle a little brighter in the firmament, as if preparing to receive one of their own.

Callen was known to be

one of the longest-term AIDS survivors of the epidemic, having first been diagnosed with the full-blown syndrome in 1983. Since then, he devoted himself to living two lives — one as the seemingly undaunted, PWA activist, and the other as a founder and tenor of the *a cappella* singing group the Flirtations. Both lives intersected profoundly at April's March On Washington, and when he set the tone for every AIDS Walk but one, with the song "Love Don't Need A Reason,"

which he co-wrote with Marsha Malamet and Peter Allen.

Since his diagnosis ten years ago, Callen was a fierce and controversial AIDS activist. After suffering a string of diseases that he documented in his book *Surviving AIDS*, he, along with Larry Kramer, was among the first to sound the alarm that AIDS would be "our Vietnam." He was one of the inventors of the new concept of safe sex — not a popular idea at a time when most gay (Continued on page 15)

## Stroud To Be Named S.F. Health Director?

by Dennis Conkin

Mayor Frank Jordan has recommended that Florence Stroud be appointed director of the San Francisco Department of Health.

Stroud has been the acting director of the department for the last six months, following the resignation of Dr. Raymond Baxter.

Stroud aced out lesbian physician Sandra Hernandez, M.D., former director of the Health Department's AIDS office and the county's chief medical officer, for the top Health Department job.

The Health Commission is expected to announce the appointment of Stroud to the \$135,000-a-year post on Thursday, January 6.

"The Mayor feels that with

her background and proven leadership ability, that she will be able to facilitate the changes of the '90s," Noah Griffin, Jordan's press spokesperson, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "With leveraged health care and leveraged federal dollars, it will really be important to move as a unit."

Griffin called Stroud "a team player" and said Jordan believed she was the "best choice" for the position after serious consideration of the candidates.

Stroud has been deputy director of public health since 1982 and is the former director of the Berkeley Department of Public Health in the East Bay. She holds a Master's Degree in Nursing and a Masters Degree in Public Health. ▼

### Inside

Calendar . . . . .	46	HIV Watch . . . . .	27	Out There . . . . .	34
Classifieds . . . . .	28	Letters . . . . .	6	Personals . . . . .	52
Features . . . . .	44	Mr. Marcus . . . . .	48	Sports & Fitness . . . . .	43
GLAAD . . . . .	11	Obituaries . . . . .	24	Wayne Friday . . . . .	9
Health & Community . . . . .	28	Outer Limit . . . . .	10		



# Bankruptcy

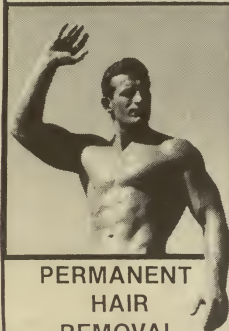


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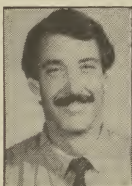
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## Community News



An interested onlooker takes in the sights, sounds and perhaps even smells offered up by Ringold Alley.  
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

## Cops Hassle Gay Men in SOMA

by Dennis Conkin

A gay man says that he felt intimidated and threatened by a San Francisco police officer who verbally abused him during an early morning incident near Ringold Alley in December.

The incident was observed by an eyewitness; the car's identification number was recorded and the identity of the officer is being determined by the Bay Area Reporter.

"I was walking my dog. I wasn't cruising, really. It wasn't that time of night. A cop car came around the corner and stopped and looked at me," said Grant Brady, the owner of Hocus Pocus, a popular used clothing store on Valencia and 21st streets.

The officers in the car were not courteous, Brady said, but curt and hostile.

"They had a real anti-gay attitude," Brady said.

The officers questioned Brady about his dog, which was not on a leash at the time, and Brady explained that there wasn't a lot of foot traffic in the area and he was watching the dog.

"I told them that I had a leash in the car if they wanted me to go get it," Brady told the B.A.R.

Brady said that the officers

stopped that line of questioning, but one cop continued to be discourteous and rude, and acted in a manner that reflected discredit on the San Francisco Police Department.

"He said that I better wipe the corner of my mouth be-

**Noting  
the driver  
was Asian,  
the cops  
made such  
comments as  
"there aren't  
a lot of people  
who are like  
you in Japan,  
are there?"**

cause I had a lot of shit running out of it," Brady told the Bay Area Reporter.

"That was definitely anti-gay," Brady said. "And I felt it was an attempt to intimidate me. I moved here in 1969. They wouldn't have done that if it were the 70s. The cops were pretty good during that period," Brady said.

After that incident, the cop car drove through Ringold Alley and stopped a van with out-of-state license plates that was directly in front of the officers. Then, according to B.A.R. news editor Mike Salinas, who witnessed the incident, they started asking homophobic and racist questions of the driver.

Noting the driver was Asian, the cops made such comments as "there aren't a lot of people who are like you in Japan, are there?" Referring to the out-of-state tags, one officer asked "why would you drive all the way here just to drive through this alley?"

"They want respect. They want people to be cooperative," Brady complained. "How can they expect to get it with this kind of attitude?"

Public Affairs Officer Dave Ambrose told the B.A.R. that Brady or any other citizen "who perceives discourteous or any other kind of improper conduct on the part of a police officer should contact the Office of Citizen Complaints to file an official complaint, so the charge can be thoroughly investigated."

Brady said that he would like to personally confront the officer about his attitude, but also said that he would consider filing a complaint. ▼



### A breast of abundance

Black and White Men Together serve food at their traditional black-eyed pea New Year's Day Dinner. Nearly 100 guests ate fried chicken, representing abundance; collard greens, representing prosperity; and peas, representing good luck. Plus dessert! (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



# Tower Denies Allegations Of Eavesdropping on Gays

by Dennis Conkin

An attorney representing Tower Records says the Sacramento-based national record store chain flatly denies that security personnel were ordered to conduct surveillance of gay store managers.

Attorney Jamerson Allen of Jackson, Lewis, Schnitzler, and Krupman, a San Francisco law firm, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Tower "did not authorize any bugging of any gay store managers" and said the "practice was not condoned or tolerated by Tower."

Allen's statement was in response to allegations made by former Tower security employee Eddie Haroun. After filing a wrongful termination lawsuit filed against the firm last month, Haroun told the media he had been ordered to electronically bug gay managers' offices in the chain — in order to establish that the managers "were arranging personal homosexual liaisons on company time and telephones" — and that he was also told to spy on managers on their off hours.

"The allegations made by Mr. Haroun are patently false," said Russ Solomon, Tower president. "All lies from start to finish."

Solomon also denied charges that Tower security staffers planted a bug in the office of William Eadie, a gay former manager for the Tower Records outlet in the Castro district, although he acknowledges that Eadie found some kind of a wiretap device in his office.

"But we don't know whether it was real or it was a gag," Solomon told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "And, if

before he was demoted from his position as a store manager. The allegation surfaced one day after a news report was published, detailing Haroun's claims that he had been ordered to perform such tasks.

Allen would not comment on Eadie's charges because he has not yet had the opportunity to question the former manager about the allegations under oath.

## A former employee speaks

Although Solomon denied Haroun's charges as "out and out lies," a third former security worker for the chain told the *Bay Area Reporter* that at least one security supervisor at the firm, who later left the company, "railed and railed about 'faggots'" at work.

"He was working in the main office, causing those sorts of problems," the em-

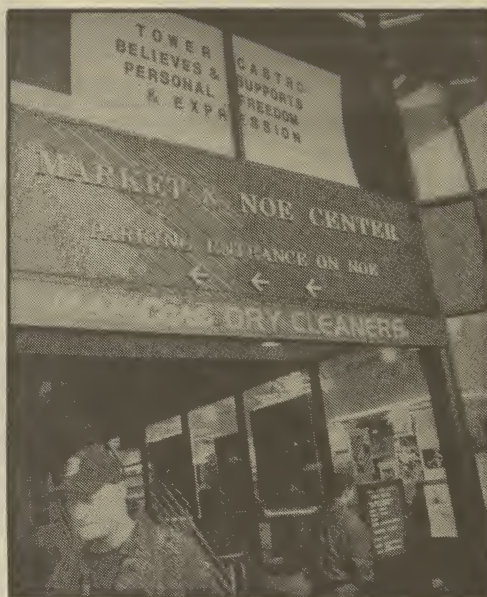
ployee said.

Bernadette Omstedt, who later resigned from Tower in 1992 after her own problems with the firm's security supervisors, told the *B.A.R.* she does not believe that Tower is anti-gay. However, she said, there was a "major cop mentality" in the security division at a time when there were some serious security problems.

"There were some things going on: money bags were coming up missing; there was a lot of cloak and dagger stuff going on. They talked a lot about doing a lot of stuff and discussed things like [bugging]," Omstedt said.

Haroun's charges that he was ordered to commit crimes such as wiretapping are under investigation by District Attorney Arlo Smith.

Solomon said the allegations would be fully answered in court. In the meanwhile, he



The sign in the window at the Tower at Market and Noe reads: "Tower Castro believes and supports personal freedom and expression."

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

wrote in a letter to the *B.A.R.*, "I question whether it really furthers the cause of gay rights for a newspaper to

attack a company like Tower that is known for supporting individual freedoms and lifestyles."▼

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"The man has been working for us for over 20 years. Don't you think we were always aware of his homosexuality?"  
— Russ Solomon, President, Tower Records

somebody put it there, it certainly wasn't placed there by Tower management.

"Why in the world would we bug the office of a store manager to find out about alleged homosexual activities after the man has been working for us for over 20 years? Don't you think we were always aware of his homosexuality? Our store managers' telephone activities have never been a concern to us, any more than how they conduct their personal lives," Solomon said.

Eadie's attorney has said his client found an electronic bugging device in his office in the Tower Castro Street store during routine maintenance,



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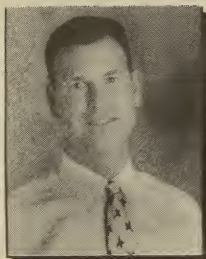
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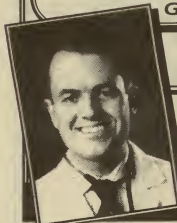
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## Community News

# Audit Is Good News, Bad News for Shanti

by Dennis Conkin

An independent audit released by the firm Coopers & Lybrand Tuesday, January 4, cleared the Shanti Project of charges that it misused public funds, but found that Shanti officials did not follow the contract justification procedures set by the Health Department's AIDS Office.

The audit revealed that Shanti, one of San Francisco's leading AIDS services providers, failed to submit contract budget modifications in a timely manner, and suffered from the lack of a computerized accounting system.

The audit found that Shanti may owe the city as much as \$499,748 in refunds for improperly billed services.

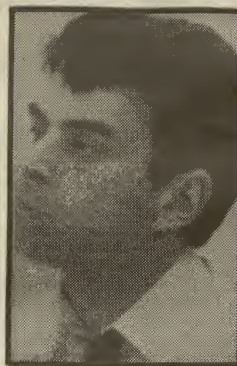
Shanti had 16 city contracts, totaling more than \$2.2 million, for the fiscal year 1991-92. Of those contracts, \$1

million was for housing of people with AIDS and \$1.2 million was earmarked for psychological services.

San Francisco AIDS office director Dr. Mitchell Katz sent a letter to the agency, saying its bill to the city was considerably less than \$400,000 because many of the expenses would have been approved if submitted in the proper form.

But, Katz told the *Bay Area Reporter*, the AIDS office was still not sure how much of the funds were improperly spent on personnel and administrative costs. Katz said that the agency would be required to repay any such funds.

And although Katz acknowledged Shanti "certainly mismanaged its contracts" for the 1991-92 period, he also said he believes the problems had been corrected and that the agency "has an important



Dr. Mitchell Katz

place in the continuum of HIV care in San Francisco."

Katz told the *B.A.R.* he is recommending that the city remove Shanti from probationary status and allow it to again apply for city contracts.

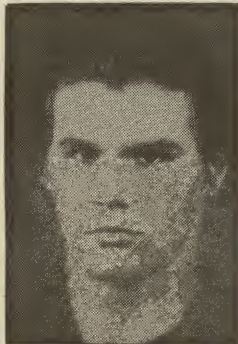
"This has been a long and exhausting process for Shanti," said Gloria Sandoval, the agency's new executive director. "We look forward to continuing our efforts to provide quality services for people with AIDS in this city. ▼

## Lowe

(Continued from page 1)

reports indicate no clear cause of death for Kinkead. According to Stevens, Kinkead had atherosclerosis and high levels of amyl nitrate and meth-amphetamines in his blood; he could have died as a result of several factors including asphyxia or cardiac arrest as a component of arrhythmia, all of which would look very similar.

According to court documents, Stevens could find no real inconsistency in Cody's statement to inspectors that he had a fight with Kinkead,



Former porn star turned prisoner David Cody (aka Tim Lowe).

that he tied Kinkead up to incapacitate him, and that when he put his arm around Kinkead's neck, the victim went limp.

According to Fazio, the evidence in the case does not support a charge of premeditated murder or murder in the commission of a robbery.

Fazio said the evidence does support charges of involuntary manslaughter and auto theft, and that tapes of Cody's statements about the death of Kinkead have been turned over to Olcomendy for a review of the evidence.

Cody will reappear in court on Monday, January 10. ▼



## Mass appeal

The opening reception for Critical Mass, 6-8 p.m. on Jan. 13, will benefit Shanti Project. Jeffrey Bernstein (right), one of seven Critical Mass artists, shows Shanti Executive Director Gloria J. Sandoval his oil painting *Beehive Man*. Critical Mass is open Jan. 11-Feb. 6 at Opts Art Gallery, 250 Fourth St.

(Photo: Peter Cassels)

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# Gay Sperm for Sale:

New Oakland Clinic Offers Lesbians a New Set of Options

by Marghe Covino

OAKLAND — Leland Traiman, 41, is a highly trained nurse practitioner, a gay man in a committed relationship, a warm, friendly man who truly likes women, the proud father of a 15-month-old daughter who is being raised by her lesbian mothers, and the entrepreneur behind a proposed new East Bay clinic called Rainbow Flag Health Services.

Rainbow Flag's primary reason for existence is to be a sperm bank for the lesbian/gay community. Traiman, who earned his nursing degree at University of California at San Francisco and his nurse practitioner degree at Stanford Medical School, has extensive experience working in women's health care and in AIDS research, says the clinic will be located in Oakland at 30th and Telegraph, near Summit Hospital. "We're in a converted duplex with the clinic upstairs," Traiman tells the *Bay Area Reporter*, "right in the heart of 'Pill Hill.' They used to call it that because there were so many hospitals and pharmacies in the immediate area." There are quite a few medical facilities still in the neighborhood, in fact: Rainbow Flag is located directly around the corner from the Sperm Bank of California, a lesbian-founded organization.

Why the duplication? Traiman says his services are different: "First of all, I will be exclusively using the sperm of gay or bisexual men. Secondly, Rainbow's service is for lesbians who want to know who the donor is. By contractual agreement, when the child is three months of age the mother will be provided with the name and telephone number of the donor. The mother's name and telephone number will be provided to the donor at the child's first birthday. That's one aspect that's different from the standard clinics," Traiman said.

"The mother has control"

"The mother has total legal control because we're observing the absolute letter of the law. I just want to help lesbian couples to have kids, and

at the same time give them the opportunity to be connected to another family in the community."

Other non-standard aspects of the clinic are that Traiman will use donors who are over 40, adopted, or themselves the product of a sperm bank — things that traditional clinics eschew. "Of course we observe all of the laws of the State of California," he says, "donors are screened for HIV and venereal diseases; that's done by all sperm banks. After the sperm is donated, it's frozen and then used six months after donation." Mothers receive descriptions of physical characteristics, age, occupation, family histories, such as number of siblings, parents' ages, family diseases, and whether the prospective grandparents are alive. In the Rainbow scenario there is also information on the prospective grandparents. The mother and donor will both be asked questions about the use of drugs and alcohol.

Traiman's profile woman (recipient) is in her late 30s or early 40s, "she wants to get pregnant, she wants to do it soon, and she wants a known and involved donor," he says.

Rainbow Flag will be a monument to Traiman's best friend, Linda, he says. "Linda was a lesbian, she was in her early 30s, and she was my best friend," he recalls. "Originally she was the one I wanted to have a child with. Instead ... she [was] diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. Of course she came with me to my home so I could care for her until she died. She was family." She also helped Traiman realize his dream of having a child, even if she was not able to carry it.

"In an odd way, Linda had a part in my daughter's being here," he says, "because during her illness her best woman friend came to the house to help and be with her — and in the course of those events I met the couple who would mother our daughter."

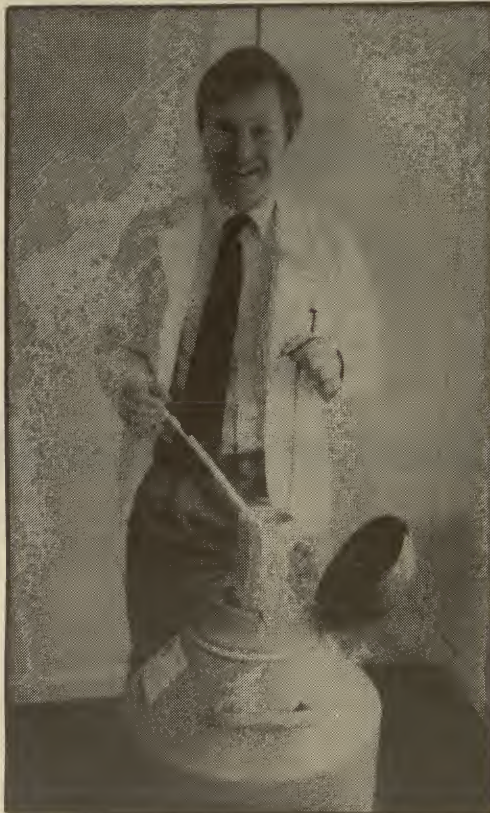
"Prospective Queer Parents"

Traiman also facilitates a group called "Prospective Queer Parents" which meets once a month to discuss issues, fears, feelings and anything else the group needs to discuss about parenting. "It's

wonderful," he says, "the group is about to celebrate its second anniversary, and we have one member who is just now pregnant. So you can see we don't advocate leaping into things; we want people to have all of the opportunity in the world to give the issues their full consideration."

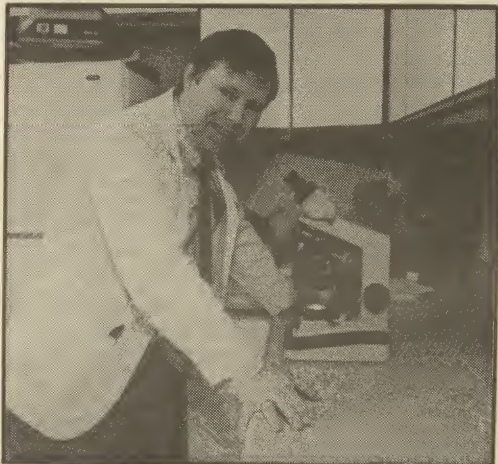
Traiman says the family support is important. "My parents take her and baby sit, and so do I. She receives care, love, family, and support which would be absent without this type of arrangement. Of course this happens only because her mother(s) agree and want it too, because they have unalterable, full legal rights."

If all goes as planned, Rainbow Flag will be open in about six to nine months. Traiman says that insurance coverage will be accepted, but doubts that many health plans include insemination services. The cost will be approximately \$125, and donors will be paid a small fee. There will be a back-up physician at the clinic, but most of the operation will be run by Traiman, who will also perform other health services. For further information, call him at the message line, (510) 272-0300. ▼



Leland Traiman checks out the liquid nitrogen storage tank.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



Nurse practitioner Leland Traiman about to examine some spermatozoa at Rainbow Flag Health Services.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

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## Editorial

### On Good Samaritans...

Now that New Year's Eve is over, we've begun to look around us at 1994, to see how comfortable we are with it. Frankly, it's starting on a bad note. The recent robbery in the Castro, at the hands of three juveniles from outside the area, makes us a little afraid — and very, very angry.

To them, and to anyone else who thinks the Castro is a good place to find easy victims, we say this: think again. We have fought for dignity and for our rights for so long now we have become proficient at standing up for ourselves and each other.

The Castro has not become as crime-ridden as Polk Street — yet — and we in the lesbian and gay community can and must make sure that does not happen. For several years we have advocated the carrying of whistles as self-protection devices, and still urge anyone who doesn't yet have one to get one. For those who don't, we would advise crime victims to shout "fire" when they need help, rather than "help." A cry for help, in these times, is too easy for many people to ignore, but a shout of "fire" seems to bring out the better nature — or maybe just curiosity — of onlookers.

To other readers, who may be around the corner or down the street when those shouts go up, we urge immediate action. Don't let the neighborhood go down the drain; don't allow crime and criminals to win, because there is never a consolation prize to the losers. So if you hear a cry for help, do what you can: shout back that you are calling 911; call 911; throw something; get a description and call it down the street.

We are, of course, mindful of the young Good Samaritan who was killed in December as he intervened in a robbery: we do not want more of that, obviously. But if we become a society devoid of Good Samaritans, we lose something exquisite and irreplaceable. Besides, if we get enough practice defending our neighborhood against thugs with guns, we may get better at protecting it against thugs with Bibles, like Lou Sheldon.

The Castro is not the only place suffering an increase in crime, or Governor Wilson wouldn't be holding a "crime summit" later this month in hopes of boosting his approval ratings, and Polly Klaas's father wouldn't be so successful in backing the "three strikes, you're out" proposal that may be a ballot initiative and a Sacramento bill before the year is out.

With so much crime going on, it's especially important to protect ourselves and each other. Take back the neighborhood before it's too late. By which we mean, before it's unsafe to walk, and before too many Sacto politicians can make up laws designed to protect Californians, but which really imprison us.

### ...and Bad Politicians

Speaking of politicians, we are (yes, like everyone else) trying to take a fresh look at Clinton for the new year. We still hate what he did on the military issue — and what he continues to do; geez, is he a lousy loser — but we did warm to him a bit after considering what it would have been like if a Republican was in office when Amendment 2 passed in Colorado. Bush would have thrown his weight (such as it was) behind it, which would have been awful, but we can barely imagine what Reagan would have been like taking the Hate Show on the road. At least Clinton hasn't asked the Justice Department to appeal the ruling that found Amendment 2 unconstitutional. We'll see if he stays uninvolved, and prays his New Year's resolution was to live up to the promises he made back in 1992.

For what it's worth, the Federal government has at least spent some money on condom awareness ads in Clinton's presidency, unlike Reagan's and Bush's. And while we think the ads themselves are kind of silly, we are sure glad they're there. If they save only one life, they are not silly at all.

What is very silly, in our opinion, is the GOP leadership's insistence on a special prosecutor to investigate Clinton's role in a failed Savings and Loan. Not that we think it is a small matter that the average American taxpayer shelled out barrels of cash to support the lavish lifestyles of S&L looters: we just think that the Republicans — especially Bob Dole — are obviously grasping at straws in an attempt to make political hay. We wonder if they know how absurdly transparent they appear, after fighting to shield Neil Bush from S&L investigations — to say nothing of protecting his father, the former prez, against special prosecution based on his Iran/Contra activities.

To Dole and the rest of that clique of fools, some advice: if you want attention and votes, do something pro-active. Don't dwell on what you can dredge up about others, do something real on your own. Help in the fight against poverty, violence, AIDS, hate crimes, etc., etc. That is, after all, what you were elected to do, and what you are paid for. Stop throwing bricks at the president; they're needed for bridge-building. ▼

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& democracy for his own political gain—the  
ShreeBarana Award goes to Bob Dole!



## Guest Opinion

### Former USAF Exec: Enough is Enough

by Pete Randall

It is with anger — no, rage — after years of silence about the issue of gay rights that I write this. I am the former Executive Director of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records, the highest level of appeal to which a servicemember can go to have a grievance heard concerning an error or injustice leveled against them by a military department. During my tenure with the board, hundreds (if not thousands) of gay and lesbian servicemembers came to us, trying to have their "bad" discharges upgraded or to even be reinstated in the service. Sadly, nearly all of the reinstatement requests were denied; however, we did upgrade those "bad" discharges.

My own story is not a new one, although Randy Shilts found it interesting enough to chronicle it in his book *Conduct Unbecoming*. I've always felt, and continue to believe, our non-violent struggle for the basic civil rights enjoyed by our fellow countrymen is the only path we should take. But *enough is enough*.

Gays and lesbians have endured the hatred of the heterosexual majority for hundreds of years. We've been put in concentration camps and forced to endure second — no, third — class citizenship and even death, because of our sexual orientation, over which we have about as much control as the color of our eyes or the pigment of our skin.

Yes, I'm angry. I'm angry that we don't have another Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to speak for us. I'm angry that we're dying of AIDS and little is done to find a cure. I'm angry that we live in a country that tells the rest of the world that all persons are created equal and everyone here enjoys the basic rights of freedom — when we know that we're not all treated equally and we all don't have the basic rights as citizens of this nation.

I am angry that our government collects taxes from us that it then uses to pay for policies

that discriminate against us. What's really sad is that we silently sit by and allow it to happen. The tax collector should be paid, but in a free society tax dollars should not be used to discriminate.

Millions of tax dollars that will be used to pay for discrimination could be put to better use by our government. If that money was spent to find a cure for AIDS, to upgrade education, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless, or a myriad of other just causes, what a wonderful world this would be.

It seems things never change. It wasn't that long ago that our tax dollars were being used against people of color. Progress may be slow, but time sure seems to fly by. Have African-Americans really achieved parity with white America? Laws were enacted to eradicate discrimination against that class of people. But has anything really changed? Oh, the "White Only" signs have come down and the back of the bus now seats all. But have we really changed? How many black CEOs are there? How many supervisors and executives are people of color? Are there still ghettos?

Like African-Americans, we live with conditions that the greater white heterosexual majority never encounters. Uncle Sam is still peeping into our bedrooms and throwing us in jail for the same conduct heterosexuals engage in without fear. Why are their bedrooms off limits and ours aren't? What is so intriguing about the homosexual to straight America? Do we not bleed when we're cut? Do we not cry when we're sad?

America needs to learn that we're here. Always have been, always will be. We're your brothers and sisters, your mothers and fathers, your sons and daughters. We're your neighbors, your doctors, nurses, lawyers. We're the cashier at your convenience store, the singer in your church choir.

If '93 was the year of the queer, then '94 must be the year the door comes down. ▼

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## Letters

### Performance Over Politics

I am writing in response to the B.A.R.'s recent story concerning the committee reassignments which were made for myself and Supervisor Carole Migden by Board President Angela Alioto.

In my view, the removal of Sup. Migden as Chair of the Budget Committee is an unfortunate loss for our city because of the outstanding job she has done under the most difficult of circumstances. What makes these actions most disappointing is that they appear to be based upon politics — not performance.

I would also differ with Supervisor Alioto's comments that I am not a progressive. I have approached my job with a progressive orientation that is thoughtful and respects fiscal restraint and government efficiency. The reality for our city is that we will continue to experience budgetary problems and we must be mindful of the need to carefully spend our limited funds. We must ensure that our citizens receive a dollar's worth of service for every dollar spent.

My record speaks loud and clear regarding the needs of the lesbian, gay and Latino communities. On both issues of Eugene Lumpkin and immigration, I took strong stands even though it put me in opposition to the mayor who appointed me. I have not hesitated to speak out or to fight for the issues and concerns of these communities. I will not hesitate to do so in the future.

Supervisor Alioto offers that she might include Supervisor Migden on her slate for this November's election and I am off her list, even though electing her slate would remove the only Latina member of our Board. I trust the people of San Francisco will choose performance over politics.

Susan Leal  
Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco

### Rouillard — Gone With the Wind

Having written for a couple of the queer glossies, I can't resist adding a few reminiscences to Michael Botkin's recent all-too-accurate diatribe.

In early 1991, shortly after chucking my legit job and deciding to try to make a living writing full-time, I happened to stumble into a part-time position assisting one of the editors at *The Advocate*, which in turn led to my writing a succession of stories for the magazine over the next year and a half.

This was during the magazine's peak, while it was helmed by Editor-in-Chief Richard Rouillard, and it was an exhilarating experience. *The Advocate* had a sense of purpose then in doing landmark reporting on subjects like AIDS and homelessness that most gay magazines never touch. The source of that energy was Rouillard.

Don't get me wrong; the man could be utterly impossible at times. Imagine a combination of roughly equal parts Larry Kramer, Bette Davis and Charles Foster Kane and you'll get something of an idea of his personality. But what he achieved was amazing. In less than a year, he took a lightweight magazine and turned it into a significant force on the national scene. It took his successors only months to again reduce it to irrelevance.

*The Advocate* under Rouillard certainly wasn't perfect, but it was attempting serious queer journalism on a scale that only a well-budgeted national magazine can manage. At its best, which was much of the time, it had intelligence, style, political savvy and guts. His forced departure left a gap that no one has tried to fill in any sort of serious, consistent way.

Maybe someday someone will have the guts to try it again. And maybe — if we're lucky — their idiot publishers will not cut the legs out from under them.

Bruce Mirken  
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Laudable enough, but don't hold your breath. When the magazine covers all aspects of the gay and lesbian community, it might, just might, be taken seriously by the general queer population.

### Dressed to Kill

I was outraged after reading an ad and an article in the B.A.R. The "Stop AIDS Shirt" advertised by The Tailored Man, seems to be, on the surface, a very charitable purchase this season, but when you really look at the weave of things, something isn't wrapped too tight.

The article states that the shirt was created to provide the man who has both a social and a style consciousness with an alternative to the "now common" red ribbon, and that 20 percent of the \$225 price tag will be donated to the AIDS Emergency Fund — that's a whole \$45. How very generous.

I take great offense by this. First of all, maybe, just maybe the "now common" red ribbon wouldn't be so common if these pandemic merchants wouldn't try to make huge profits under the guise of helping people with HIV.

Secondly, I suggest that any man who is just plain conscious forego the shirt altogether and write a check directly to the AIDS Emergency Fund or any other research/charity.

Enough is enough! It's time to get serious, that is, unless you are silly enough to want to be dressed to the nines in your casket.

Rob Branciforte  
San Francisco

### Mocking Death

This is in response to the Dec. 9 Commentary from Jim Provenzano titled "Deathstyles of The Bitch Infamous."

By comparing our "Lambda Pride" cremation urn to faux marble designer Kleenex boxes, it is Jim Provenzano who is mocking death.

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Janet McCormick, Inspiration and  
Spokesperson/LifeStyle Urns™  
Evansville, Indiana

Jim Provenzano responds:  
Dear Ms. Inspiration. Get a life, not a LifeStyle.

### Unwritten Chapters Coming

According to a recent article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Tower Records was cited in a law suit for forcing a former supervisor of security to quit because he refused to bug the offices of, and spy on, gay managers outside of work. The article went on to say that Tower intended to terminate or demote gay store managers because they do not fit the image of Tower Records.

If this is indeed true, then I feel that the gay community has no other choice than to boycott the Tower chain in its entirety. This sort of action on our part could virtually shut down the Market Street store in San Francisco and do severe economic damage to its other Bay Area stores.

Once again, the gay community must resort to using its economic power to prove a social point.

Dan Pul  
San Francisco

Ed. Note: While not directly disagreeing with your thesis, we suggest there are chapters of the Tower story not yet written. Allegations are allegations and do not necessarily equal proof.

### Applauds Queers and Radicals

I take personal exception to a reference to me in Nancy Boutillier's column entitled "Scapegoating From Without and Within" which you published in your Dec. 16, 1993 issue. In it, Ms. Boutillier couples me with others who would "... sit poised to accept praise for distancing themselves from those queers who would actually like to change society." The column was brought to my attention by my friend and comrade, Michael Petrelis.

For the record: I honor and applaud the "queers (and radicals in our community) who would ... change society." This is testified by a column I wrote in Sept., 1993 entitled "Radicals' Anger And Zeal Can Take Gays Far." The column was first published in the *Washington Blade* on Sep. 24, 1993 and subsequently reprinted in 16 other gay and lesbian periodicals throughout the country. Unfortunately, the column was not picked up in San Francisco and Ms. Boutillier obviously didn't read it.

Marvin Liebman  
Washington, D.C.

### We Can Defend Ourselves

Thank you for informing the community about the right-wing phone/fax/mail campaign against Apple Computer and the need to reply (*B.A.R.* Guest Opinion, Dec. 30). Beyond this case, we must organize long-term to protect our right to exist and fight moves to force anyone into second-class citizenship.

A phone/fax/mail/letters to the editor/talk show campaign can have disproportionate influence because most people are never heard from at all. Even a small group can get the attention of a company, of public officials or of the public at large. For example, if only one in a thousand people in the U.S. telephoned or sent letters or faxes, that would be one of the biggest political mobilizations in history.

This means that a tiny vocal minority could move events against us. It also means that we can defend ourselves. But we must organize to make it easier for new people to plug into these efforts.

Most people want to work with friends and neighbors to defend our community — not only make calls or write letters alone. They are turned off by boring "process" meetings and are looking for smaller affinity groups where they can get right to work. They need to know that they can trust the leadership to do its homework, to develop winning strategies and alliances that represent the true consensus of our community.

Organizations that offer such leadership will have influence because they will receive the commitment, gratitude, time and money of an appreciative public.

John S. James  
San Francisco

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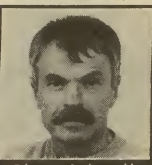
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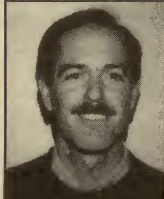
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The Bible and Homosexuality, and the real Christian  
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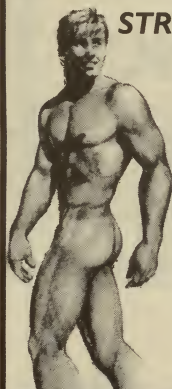
January 20th  
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Responding to the Religious Right: learn the myths  
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## Letters

### Prostitutes' Rights

The recent media attention on the Prostitution Task Force has presented a one-sided view: the voice of Supervisor Hallinan and the business people who back him. Before the Task Force has even met, the property owners on the task force are already trying to set the agenda. They are putting forward as the goal and focus of the group the legalization of prostitution — what the media calls "a city of brothels," "brothels by the sea," "city run barracks."

There are people on the task force who do not agree with this focus. We do not support the proposals for city-run brothels removed from residential neighborhoods where prostitute women would be required to register, subject to health inspections and forced to carry passports — apartheid for sex workers is no solution to red-light neighborhoods. Legalization/regulation would not end the poverty and stigmatization of sex workers. It would make it harder for women to keep their earnings or negotiate their working conditions. The association of prostitute women with "health problems" and AIDS, which Sup. Hallinan has given as a justification for his proposals, is false. Many studies show that men are not getting AIDS from women — prostitution or not — and that sex workers are the first to take care of our health if the necessary services are available.

In nearby Nevada and in Hamburg (Germany), legalization has created assembly lines of sex which women have described as prisons. It has further trapped women in prostitution and institutionalized pimping by the government. In Hamburg, prostitute women pay 56 percent of their earnings in taxes and get no social benefits. Only an estimated 12 percent of prostitute women work in the legalized area where competition is fierce and women work long shifts to pay middle men and high room rents. As long as prostitute women are confined to restricted areas and kept apart from the rest of the community, we will lack the legal and civil rights available to other people and the stigma attached to prostitution will remain.

The task force must break new ground, look at options that have not been tried elsewhere and not focus on options that have already failed. Contrary to legalization, the abolition of the prostitution laws would allow women to advertise and work from their own premises, i.e., have more control over their working conditions and get rid of the need for red-light districts. Because sex workers are criminalized, we are always blamed for all the problems of inner-city neighborhoods. Only the abolition of the laws can begin to eliminate the stigma attached to prostitution by disentangling consenting sex which should not be the business of the law, from violent crimes and other offenses of nuisance.

Public opinion in San Francisco is clearly against the high cost of police enforcement of the prostitution laws which diverts resources from violent crime areas. Jurors have consistently refused to sit on prostitution cases and/or convict sex industry workers. The media rarely reports on this, mostly highlighting property owners' claims that they are losing money because of the presence of sex workers on the street — in other words, a defense of property values at the expense of civil rights.

If the task force is serious about tackling the issue of prostitution, it must address the question of poverty. Most prostitute women and men come from poor and vulnerable sectors of the community trying to provide for themselves (and in some cases, their children) at times of increasing unemployment, homelessness and welfare cuts. A high percentage of prostitute women are single mothers and federal statistics show that an overwhelming number of families headed by women are poor. Black and other women of color, who because of racism have even fewer economic alternatives, are also discriminated against within the sex industry and therefore are more likely to work the streets and to be arrested and jailed.

US PROS will only take part in the task force if it is prepared to look at all the issues seriously and to defend the civil rights of sex workers. We will not be used to give credibility to the task force if it is nothing other than a mouthpiece for Hallinan and others with political ambitions.

U.S. Prostitutes Collective  
San Francisco

### Research on Transvestites

I would be obliged if you would bring the following to the attention of your readers. I am currently a Visiting Fellow in the Department of Geography, University of Southampton (UK), and I am canvassing for information connected with research that I am engaged upon. This research involves a comparative analysis of female and transvestite beauty competitions and is concerned with publicly structured presentations of the female persona.

Your readers might also like to know that I am compiling a data base on transvestism/transsexuality for academic research purposes and private collectors and would like to hear from interested parties. Interested parties may send any information to me at 6 Silverdale Road, Southampton SO1 2NG, England. All correspondence will be treated as confidential.

Dr. V. M. Amadouny  
Southampton, England

### Suggestions of Merit from the Expert

The following letter was sent to President Bill Clinton:

First, congratulations. During your first year in office you have championed many much-needed changes that have had and will continue to have, positive constructive impacts on our seriously undermined domestic economic and social structures. However, there are a few programs and propositions presently under consideration that in my opinion require profound alterations before being imposed upon the American public.

The first program that must be changed is the concept of medical care. We deserve and must have a long overdue "one-payer, universal, quality health care system," one in which every U.S. citizen by right of birth or legal residency requirements is guaranteed free quality health care, a system that will immediately make superfluous the parasitic health companies that now sustain themselves in a "Draculesque" fashion off the maladies of our population.

You might well ask: what about the insurance workers who will be unemployed due to the defunctness of their companies? Response: a comprehensive nationwide free health care system would create more jobs in the health care provider and associated fields than will be lost, due to the disappearance of the leech-like health insurance companies.

Another proposal rumored to be bouncing off the walls of The White House is one that recommends the federal government pay corporations for hiring welfare recipients. This proposal would encourage people to go on welfare in order to get a job because based on past performance, the corporations will go with the money every time.

Lastly, our nation's capital is a disgrace! Its streets have become killing fields. What is being done to make the streets safe? When will we citizens once again be able to take justifiable pride in our nation's capital?

Jerry R. DeYoung  
San Francisco

### 'Name Withheld' Uninformed?

We have just read the response to my recent letter from "Name Withheld By Request" and question the truthfulness; we also want to respond.

First, "Name Withheld By Request" (next time have the guts to give your name; I did!) there is not an enormous effective recovery system in this city. If "Name Withheld By Request" has read any recent releases by City Hall he/she would know that. We don't believe "Name Withheld by Fear" has any idea what drug addiction is like, especially with the remark about waiting for a magic drug to stop the addiction. I very clearly stated that we needed free medication to ease through the physical withdrawal. Once we get through the physical part we are more than ready to work with the services available, but we need to get over the physical withdrawal first. If "Name" was ever really addicted, he/she would know that counseling services want you over the physical part before counseling will be effective.

I assume the judgemental remarks about being picky and the 'perils' of detoxing referred to in the letter were aimed at the unwillingness of a junkie to be strung out, i.e., shaky, sleepless and always exhausted, constant diarrhea and weak but irritably edgy.

I don't know what "Name Withheld" claims to have been hooked on, but being on a heroin withdrawal is one of the longest suffering weeks anyone could experience.

"Name Withheld" needs to re-read my letter and respond to the needs of a segment of the gay community continually trashed — the young, gay, hooked hustler.

Once again, for those of you who care — give us some support instead of berating us and we can pull ourselves up.

Mikel Roger with Tim, Sean,  
T.R. and Jeannie  
San Francisco

### Gays in Schools

I am writing a book on gay and lesbian issues in American public schools and would like to hear from anyone with first-hand knowledge.

This includes teachers, administrators and students who are out at their schools; anyone with information about how schools are handling gay-related controversies or problems and anyone who can point me in a direction or toward an angle I might not know about.

Please write to me at 301 Post Rd. East, Westport, CT 06880, or call (203) 227-1755. Thanks.

Dan Woog  
Westport, CT

### Write to 'B.A.R.'

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter—this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

We prefer that letters be typewritten and double-spaced. Handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible.

Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate considerations. B.A.R. reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.



# November on My Mind

The 1994 national general elections promise to be as interesting as what will undoubtedly be a hard-fought battle in California to elect a governor, a U.S. senator, and a host of other statewide candidates to office. The Democrats in Washington hold a 56-44 edge in the Senate, but no less than 21 Democratic seats will be at risk next November, and most Washington observers expect Republicans to pick up as many as four or five of them. The Democratic edge in the House will likely decrease as well, as all members, including 110 first-termers, are facing the voters and off-year elections nearly always produce wins for the party not in the White House.

A number of election campaigns across the country should be fun to watch. Diane Feinstein, currently one of our hottest politicos, will be favored to win re-election,

William Weld, often called the most "pro-gay" governor in America, seeks re-election. Governorships in Michigan, Illinois, Georgia, Texas, New York, and Florida are also up for grabs.

It might seem a bit early to start thinking about the off-year November elections, but the candidates have been busy raising millions and seeking votes for months. When you are a politician, it is never too early to start campaigning, and you can be sure that by the time November 8 rolls around, we will all be sick of hearing the pie-in-the-sky political promises — predictable as the sunrise.

California political predictions? Not from me. It's too early for that, but I sure would like to see Pete Wilson and Dan Lungren retired by the voters in November.

## Politics and People

Locally, some City Hall watchers are quietly predicting that Supervisors Annemarie Conroy and Susan Leal, both Jordan appointees, will be defeated this year. I wouldn't bet on it. I think all incumbent supes running will get elected and Tom Ammi-ano will pick up retiring Bill Maher's seat.

In D.C., Chief Justice William Rehnquist is publicly calling for the president to get off the dime and fill some of those 113 vacant federal judgeships (some have been vacant for four years). How about appointing some of our qualified gay/lesbian attorneys to some of those seats, Mr. President?

Snappy reply: when a male reporter asked singer k.d. lang, a proud lesbian, what was going through her mind when she shot that raunchy *Vanity Fair* cover with supermodel Cindy Crawford, lang retorted, "Probably the same thing that would be going through yours."

You think Pete Wilson doesn't have political troubles as he kicks off his re-election bid? A recent *Los Angeles Times* poll shows the guy with an all-time low 31 percent approval rating.

Meanwhile, while Wilson and both of his prospective Democratic opponents (Kathleen Brown and John Garamendi) are busy trying to win the top job by making crime the number-one issue, the stats show California with 2,442 handgun homicides last year, the highest of any state in the nation.

The Tip of the Hat award this week goes to Senator Diane Feinstein, who took on all those well-known senators and congressmembers who constantly come to California to raise campaign bucks but usually vote against the state's interests in D.C. Feinstein: "As all these senators keep coming to California to have fundraisers, I think we ought to say, 'Look, we're not going to give you anymore unless you help the state, because this is a state that needs help now.'" She added that "California has always exported political gratuities to others, and now it needs help back. I think the time has come to get it."

Last week's special state senate election in San Diego, won by Democrat Steve Peace, gives the Democratic Party a 22-16 edge in that up-



k.d. lang

per legislative body over the Republicans. Two members are officially "Independents."

A bit of snickering around City Hall at the anti-Jordan *Examiner* asking Angela Alioto and Toklas Demo President Robert Barnes to "grade" Frank Jordan's past year in office. Are there two more upfront Jordan-haters in the city?

You gotta love those tennis pros! Monica Seles has reportedly found true love with Carsten Malessa, the phys-ed teacher who rescued her from that backstabber last year and comforted her as she lay on the tennis court in Hamburg. British tabloids are playing this one up big and report that Malessa, 26, sent Seles, 20, a diamond ring for Christmas and phones her regularly. (Are you reading this, Martina?)

Look for Supervisors Carole Migden and Kevin Shelley to battle it out, albeit with as much class as possible, for the presidency of the board of supes this year.

So how did President Clinton do in keeping his promises to the gay and lesbian community during his first year? Let's count:

•He failed to end the ban on gays and lesbians in the military. The president argues that gays may legally serve under a "compromise," but gay rights advocates point out that military gays and lesbians still cannot declare their sexual orientation.

•On AIDS — he did appoint an AIDS policy coordinator to oversee federal policies (former Washington state Health Secretary Kristine Gebbie).

•No, he didn't, as promised, lift the ban on travel and immigration to the U.S. for those with HIV.

•Yes, President Clinton did increase funding for AIDS research, prevention, and treatment; "substantial" increases for all three were included in Clinton's first budget.

•As promised, the Clinton administration has made moves to unclench the approval process for AIDS-related drugs (in November, HHS Secretary Donna Shalala set up a panel to speed development of AIDS drugs).

•In addition, the president showed he supports local efforts to make condoms available in schools when he named Joycelyn Elders, a strong advocate of providing condoms to students, surgeon general.

•Clinton also fully funded the Ryan White Care Act to provide \$275 million to cities for AIDS treatment.

•Health care coverage to all Americans with HIV is included in the proposed Clinton national health reform legislation, introduced in Congress last November. The leg-

(Continued on page 26)

## Work Out!

And maybe the rest will too!



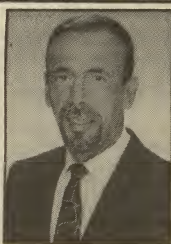
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## The Outer Limit

# Doozy of a Dykemare

by Rachel Pepper

I knew it was gonna be a great night the moment I opened the front door. The Breeders were blaring, a swarm of cute dykes swam before my eyes, and the sexual heat produced by hundreds of excited lesbians engulfed me as I entered. What better way to usher in the holidays than with a bunch of dykes all packed into the Bottom of the Hill Bar and Restaurant on 17th Street, two days before Christmas for the rebirth of Female Trouble. Tonight's event had in the spirit of the season been dubbed "A Dykemare Before Christmas."

Female Trouble was San Francisco's premier dyke club during its three-year heyday in the late '80s. Many of us who've lived here more than four years remember it as one of our more formative San Fran experiences. Whether it was the thrill of seeing Lulu

## Commentary

at the door, watching dyke bands, or slamming on the dance floor to some of DJ Stephanie's great tunes, Wednesday nights were usually reserved in my date book for this gig. My roommates and I would take the bus up Haight Street, swig a couple beers, dance till we dropped, grab a slice of pizza next door at 2 a.m., then stumble down the hill back home.

Female Trouble's not happening regularly anymore, but its occasional reincarnation always drags out tired things (like me) who haven't dared show themselves for a while. There were girls at Dykemare I haven't seen in ages 'cuz we're all old and boring now that we've turned 30. Still, we marveled at each other's presence and caught up on our news, eyeing the youngsters milling around us. Just where do all these baby-faced dykes keep coming from, anyway?

After fighting my way through a huge crowd of girls, all smiling, sweating, and slithering against each other, I ended up in a back room to better survey the place. Why haven't we dykes discovered Bottom of the Hill before? It's a great space, complete with outdoor patio, pool tables, room to sit and chat, a stage, mini-dance floor, and a bar that's also equipped for food service. Best of all, there is parking in the neighborhood! I think we should take this place over — pronto.

### Topless guitarist

Arriving on the late side, we missed Elvis Herselvis, but did get to see Alcohol of Fame, watch Diviana introduce Linda Perry for a surprise acoustic set, and experience Mimi=Freed tossing Jane Siberry maxi-single CDs into the crowd. The main event was a raucous performance by Stone Fox, with the best dressed award going to guitarist Janis, who played topless, much to our delight. Since a couple of rambunctious young slammers kept attempting to jump on stage to bite guitarist Kim's leg, Meredith and I planted ourselves up there to shove them back. Just call me Grandma Pepper, over the hill at Bottom of the Hill, supervising her young charges.

Anyway, more history.



Nancy Kravitz (with Stanley) on her success: "I did it first, and I did it well. I believed in what I did, and that's why it worked."

Nancy Kravitz started Female Trouble in 1988, when the concept of "one-offs," that is, one-night promoter-produced nightclubs at established bars, was brand-new. The only women's bars that existed then were places like Amelia's and Maud's, which were not exactly receptive to a new crop of punk girls and rocker chicks pouring into the city.

"I knew there were other girls out there like me," says Kravitz, but being a "subculture within a subculture," she explains, they were hard to find. One way she hit upon to bring these girls out to her new club was to showcase local women's bands. These bands included Bloodlox and the Lesbian Snake Charmers (both of which Linda Perry played in before forming 4 Non-Blondes), as well as the She-Devils, Industrial Rain Forest, and Nancy's own group, Mermaid Tattoo. Elvis Herselvis also got her start at Female Trouble.

In its time, Female Trouble was the breeding ground for many of the city's finest female performers. "It was a place of cross-pollination between girl bands," remembers Nancy, and the spot that launched the careers of Stone Fox, Elvis Herselvis, Mermaid Tattoo, and 4 Non-Blondes. In fact, says Nancy, "Linda [Perry] played her first show for me." Does that mean Nancy gets a slice of the 4 Non-Blondes' royalties now? Hmm, somehow I doubt it.

The bands added an element of excitement to a night out and were integral to the club's success, but, says Nancy, "A lot of women just came out to cruise."

This is an important point that cannot be overlooked. Several years ago, there just weren't a whole lot of places for young punk women to meet. The older crowds that frequented traditional lesbian bars looked down their noses at these young girls with their Mohawks, tattoos, and piercings, but we've ended up having the last laugh: since so many older women got sober and the bars didn't bother to

adapt to a new generation's needs, they've all wound up closing. One-night-a-week clubs, meanwhile, continue to flourish nationwide.

### Fickle fans

The official closing night of the original Female Trouble was November 20, 1990. The reasons for its demise, according to Nancy, were her own burnout as promoter and dwindling attendance. "The club was taken for granted," she says matter-of-factly, and it's true. Clubgoers are fickle in this town, and even the best nightclubs rarely make it past two years.

After Nancy gave up her Wednesday night slot at Nightbreak, Chaos, the now infamous gay club, opened. "They put the big fag dollar in there, don'tcha know," she says. Soon after that, Downtown Donna opened Faster Pussycat, based on the same basic concept as Female Trouble. "People were trained to go out every Wednesday night," says Nancy. "We created a built-in audience for them."

In the year since she last gave a party, Nancy hardly sat around twiddling her thumbs. Various part-time jobs and numerous community activities have kept her busy, including positions as celebration co-chair of gay day, and stage manager and booking consultant for the Folsom Street Fair. Also, rumor has it that Kravitz's band, Angel Corpus Christe, is about to be signed by a major label, and Nancy's prized cock-a-poo, Stanley, just gave birth to five puppies!

Valentine's Day will likely mark the next time Female Trouble raises its roaring little head. It'll probably be another hugely successful venture from a woman who's been a major force behind both the women's rock and club scenes in this city. Says Nancy of her success, "I did it first, and I did it well. I believed in what I did, and that's why it worked." I couldn't have said it better myself. ▼



# Muppet Love

by Al Kielwasser

According to the show's well-known theme song, "Everything's A-OK" on *Sesame Street*. Not so, according to homophobic parents who are raising a fuss about series regulars Bert and Ernie. Fearful that these two puppets are gay, unfit parents across the country are calling for Bert and Ernie to be evicted from the home they have shared for years on public television's most famous street. Typical of the paranoid plaintiffs is an Arizona grandmother who recently wrote to the editors of *TV Guide*: "It was reported to me that Bert and Ernie are gay. My grandchildren will not be watching *Sesame Street* anymore, and I hope you will relay that message to executive producer Michael Loman."

Responding to such complaints, Children's Television Workshop (CTW), which produces *Sesame Street*, issued a press release boasting that "Bert and Ernie do not portray a gay couple and there are no plans for them to do so in the future. They are puppets, not humans."

The "Cheers 'N' Jeers" column in the December 25 issue of *TV Guide* argued: "It's a shame CTW had to issue that statement. Maybe it's time for *Sesame Street* to tackle the subject. Kids—and a few parents—need to learn that a person's sexual orientation really shouldn't matter."

In fact, *Sesame Street* could serve as a fantastic vehicle for early intervention, combating the ignorance that breeds homophobia. About half of all children in the U.S. between the ages of two and five watch an average of three episodes of *Sesame Street* each week. English-language versions of the program are broadcast in more than 40 countries and there are a number of foreign language versions (including *Plaza Sesame* in Mexico, *Bonjour Sesame* in France, and *Sesamstraat* in The Netherlands). A gay or lesbian character—whether puppet or human—would fit nicely within the multicultural neighborhood that forms the backdrop for the program's various educational snippets.

*Sesame Street* aspires to instill an appreciation for diversity. Unfortunately, this admirable goal is crippled by the producers' intention to keep a "heterosexuals only" sign hanging over *Sesame Street*. Advise the show's producers to lift that ban. Contact David V. B. Britt, President, Children's Television Workshop, 1 Lincoln Plaza, New York, New York 10023, tel. 212-595-3456, fax 212-875-6110.

While you're at it, you might drop a note to the editors of *TV Guide* for once again supporting lesbian and gay issues in the magazine's "Cheers 'N' Jeers" column. Write to Letters Department, *TV Guide*, Radnor, Pennsylvania 19088.

## Mouseketeer role call!

Out magazine continues to attract mainstream advertisers to its queer pages. The Walt Disney Company is running an ad in the February/March issue for a boxed CD collection of Annette Funicello songs. Expect aging homophobic mouseketeers to throw a hissy fit. Encourage Disney to continue supporting the lesbian/gay/bisexual press. Write to Michael D. Eisner, CEO, The Walt Disney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, California 91521.

## Philadelphia freedom

On January 10, the Philadelphia Board of Education will vote on a comprehensive "Multiracial-Multicultural-Gender Education" policy, which articulates the need for lesbian and gay, ethnic minority, and women's studies. The Philadelphia School District is the fifth largest district in the country, a victory for educational equity in Philadelphia will be a victory for our children and our community across the nation.

Write, call or fax the Board of Education by January 6; the board will vote on January 10. Contact Rotan E. Lee, President, and All Members, Board of Education, 21st Parkway, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, tel. 215-299-7914, fax 215-299-7799. The strongest opposition is expected to come from board member Dr. Thomas Mills, who has proclaimed his intolerance of "positive gay role models." Mills may be contacted at 215-299-7917.

## Good press

A recent spate of good press has graced the pages of two Bay Area dailies. The December 23 editorial in *The Oakland Tribune* ("The FBI Learns It's Not Above the Law") noted, "After over three years of expensive litigation, former Special Agent Frank Buttino of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has won his battle for equal employment rights for lesbians and gay men. It's about time."

The editorial further argues that "Prohibiting gay people from working for an agency founded by a gay man is the height of hypocrisy—another brazen example of the deceit that has permeated the federal bureaucracy for much of the 20th century." The editorial concludes: "Taxpayers should not have to tolerate the waste of public money spent to protect discriminatory practices by government agencies. It's a shame it takes stubborn heroes like Buttino to root out the insidious forces of prejudice from a government that was founded on the self-evident truth that all men (and women) are created equal."

Compliments may be sent to Robert C. Cuddy and Mary Ellen Butler, Editorial Page Editors, *The Oakland Tribune*, 66 Jack London Square, Oakland, CA 94607, tel. 510-208-6300.

The December 21 edition of the *San Jose Mercury News* (pp. 1B, 4B) included a feature on gay sailor Keith Meinhold, written by the *Merc*'s Jeff Gottlieb. The article tends toward sappiness ("The quiet, lonely boy from Stuart, Fla., has turned into a confident man whose eyes have opened to possibilities he never thought existed"), but the effort is certainly well-intentioned.

On December 22, the *Merc*'s editorial on the initial defeat of Amendment 2 ("Bias Battered") stated, "Amendment 2 was sold to Colorado voters as a way to prevent gays from getting special treatment, such as hiring quotas. Instead, it prevents gays from getting equal treatment. ... Now it's on to the state Supreme Court and, we hope, another defeat for Amendment 2." The editorial also noted that, despite compelling testimony, Judge Jeffrey Bayless "stopped short of saying gays are a disadvantaged minority group." That flaw in the decision went largely unnoticed in much of the (premature?) Amendment 2 euphoria reported in the mainstream press.

Comments should be sent to Robert Ingle, Managing Editor, *Mercury News*, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, California 95190, tel. 408-920-5494.

## Lesbian/Gay Book Awards

The Gay/Lesbian Task Force of the American Library Association (ALA) is now seeking nominations for its 1994 Lesbian/Gay Book Awards. Presented since 1971, the ALA's awards are the oldest lesbian/gay awards in the United States. Awards are given to poetry, fiction and non-fiction "books of exceptional merit relating to lesbian and gay experience." To be eligible for a 1994 award, a book must have been published in 1993. Any individual or group not affiliated or under contract with the publisher of a book being nominated may submit a nomination to Ellen Greenblatt, Book Awards Committee Chair, Central Technical Service, Lockwood Library, SUNY Buffalo, New York 14260-2200, fax 716-645-5955. ▼

We must confront homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, write to GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro Street, Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. Call our main office at 415-861-4588; fax, 415-861-4893; South Bay, 408-235-0229; East Bay, 510-273-9146; North Bay, 415-647-3055. ▼

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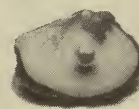
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# Clinton Administration Appeals Loss of Steffan Case

by Michael Kirkland

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Clinton administration asked an appeals court Thursday, December 30 to reconsider its order that a gay ex-midshipman be commissioned into the Navy.

The Justice Department said the court exceeded its authority and violated the principle of separation of powers, because only the president has the constitutional power to appoint military officers. But the department did not defend the old policy of completely banning homosexuals from the military, which the appeals court had ruled unconstitutional.

The ex-midshipman, Joseph Steffan, charged he was forced out of the Naval Academy in 1987 for admitting that he is gay.

The Justice Department asked the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit to rehear the case. If the appeals court grants the "en banc" request, all ten active judges on the court would participate.

The ruling ordering Steffan's commission came from a three-judge panel of the appeals court in November.

At the time, the Navy said it would commission Steffan as a lieutenant unless further legal action was taken. The time limit to appeal the ap-

peals court ruling would have expired on Monday, January 3.

A spokesman for the Defense Department said Thursday that Steffan has not been commissioned, and will not be until all legal avenues are exhausted.

## Commission appealed

The Justice Department said in its new brief that it was asking for a rehearing only on the appeals court's order to commission Steffan — not that part of the hearing which declared unconstitutional the old military policy that banned homosexuals from the services based on their sexual orientation or "status."

The brief does not try to defend the old policy, which is being replaced in early February by the so-called "don't tell, don't ask, don't pursue" policy that allows homosexuals to serve in the military under limited condi-

tions.

"Don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" was worked out by President Clinton — who, during the 1992 campaign, promised to lift the ban entirely — the Pentagon, and congressional critics such as Georgia Democratic Senator Sam Nunn, chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The administration said the order to commission Steffan "exceeds the scope of judicial authority." Only the president has authority under the Constitution to appoint military officers, the administration said.

A battalion commander at the Naval Academy, Steffan was six weeks away from graduation when he told a friend he was gay — information that was passed on to the administration at the Naval Academy.

When asked, Steffan admitted to the administration and to a performance board



President Bill Clinton

that he was homosexual.

Steffan charged that the performance board offered him a choice, to resign or be kicked out of the academy. Steffan resigned, but sued to be reinstated in 1988.

He lost his case twice in a federal district court, but won a decision in the U.S. appeals court, one of 14 courts just below the Supreme Court. ▼

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# White House: Chiefs Who Muzzled Gays Were Not Muzzled by Clinton

United Press International

WASHINGTON — On Monday, January 3, White House spokeswoman Dee Myers described as "fiction" a report that the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff were muzzled before the new "don't ask, don't tell, don't

pursue" policy on gays in the military was announced.

Press secretary Myers denied a report in *The Washington Times* that the military chiefs were summoned to the White House to make sure there was no public dissent, a few hours before the revised policy was announced December 22 by Defense Secretary Les Aspin.

"That's fiction," said Myers, who added that the Pentagon would also issue a statement later denying the report.

She said that General Colin Powell, former chairman

of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other top military leaders were very involved in the consultation and formulation of the policy.

"They were not muzzled," she said. "They were involved."

The *Times* said that the Joint Chiefs of Staff "were told to accept" the policy, despite strenuous arguments by some against the regulations. The report quoted a military officer as saying "soldiers know when to salute." Whatever that means. ▼

# After 13 Years of Legal Maneuvering Gacy to Die

United Press International

CHICAGO — The Illinois Supreme Court has ordered John Wayne Gacy executed May 10.

Gacy was convicted in 1980 of killing 33 young men and boys — more than anyone else in U.S. history.

The court issued a one-sentence order, directing that Gacy be put to death May 10 and said the order is effective immediately.

"John Wayne Gacy shall be executed by lethal injection in the manner provided by law," the court said.

Gacy, a part-time clown and Democratic precinct captain, was convicted of luring his victims to his suburban Chicago home, having sex with them, and then strangling them.

He buried most of his victims in a crawl space beneath his home and under his garage. Four bodies were found in the Des Plaines River.

Gacy last year claimed he was innocent of the killings, saying he does not even "believe in hitting children."

Former Assistant State's Attorney William Kunkle,



No more clowning around.

who prosecuted the case, dismissed the denial, calling Gacy "desperate."

At the time of the trial, Gacy did not contest his guilt. He pleaded innocent by reason of insanity but the jury rejected the insanity defense and recommended the death penalty.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected the last of Gacy's appeals. ▼



## National News

# New York Bathhouse Burns: One Dead, Three Others Missing

United Press International

NEW YORK — Firefighters picked through rubble and debris the morning of Monday, January 3, at the scene of a Queens gay bathhouse explosion and fire that claimed the life of a 65-year-old man and left three others missing.

Firefighters did not know if the three missing individuals were employees or patrons of the sauna.

Flames roared from the Northern Sauna, a one story brick complex at 33-65 Farthington Street in Flushing, about noon Sunday. Four people were seen running from the building naked except for towels.

Fears that the building would collapse hampered search efforts and kept fire companies at the scene, although the three-alarm fire was controlled within an hour.

The cause of the inferno remained undetermined, said Firefighter Elbert Washington, a department spokesman.

### Victim identified

The body of Donald Beecher, 65, of 45-36 171 Street, Flushing, was discovered in the debris at 3:15 p.m. Sunday. Two men, believed to be employees of the establishment, were brought to Flushing Hospital; one of them suffered burns about his head and face.

Four 109th Precinct police officers who tried to rescue people from the blaze had to be treated for smoke inhalation.

On Monday, firefighters used metal cutters and torches to search through tons of debris, and the city's office of emergency management was considering bringing a crane to assist with the extended search operation.

Search efforts were complicated by the nature of the building's interior, which included many small rooms, as well as a large open area that appeared to have been a gymnasium. Piles of unused condoms lay on the sidewalk among twisted remains of corrugated steel. ▼

# Why Can't Clinton Fill Key Vacant Civil Rights Posts?

by Bob Roehr

President Bill Clinton has had nothing but bad luck, bad staff work, and bad personal decisions in trying to fill the position of Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. That track record continued when, on December 17, John Payton withdrew his name from consideration for that post.

Clinton had first nominated his friend Lani Guinier, but sniping from the right led him to read some of her law review articles, call them "not reflective" of his positions, and personally withdraw that nomination. Attorney Payton's name had been publicly floated for the last several months. A series of meetings with members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) brought some tepid public support, as well as opposition from behind the scenes.

"White House Reconsiders Nominating Payton for Rights Post," read the headline on a story inside the December 16 edition of the *Washington Post*. The article detailed the alleged views of members of the CBC and added there had been little enthusiasm for Payton expressed by other traditional civil rights constituencies.

Unlike former Defense Secretary Les Aspin, the week's other Washington casualty, who had been pushed out by the president himself, the un-nominated Payton was being pushed by unattributed sources. He read the message loud and clear, and the next day Attorney General Janet Reno found herself with a letter from Payton withdrawing himself from consideration for the position.

About the only reservations about Payton that had been made for the record had come from within the gay and lesbian community, although mainstream press accounts have not acknowledged that.

The Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance (GLAA) of Washington and its president,

Jeff Coudriet, had expressed conditional opposition to Payton in a November 8 letter to Reno and the White House. They cited Payton's involvement, as chief lawyer for the city of Washington, DC, in positions taken which GLAA views as homophobic.

GLAA held out the possibility that positions did not necessarily reflect Payton's personal views but those of his client. The group sought a meeting to discuss and resolve these matters with Payton but sternly concluded "until such time, we must stand in opposition to his nomination."

Evan Wolfson at the Lambda Legal defense and Education Fund met with officials in the Justice Department and urged them to treat seriously the concerns of GLAA and others, and says he found them receptive.

But he acknowledged that the gay and lesbian community is still not routinely contacted when nominations such as this are being considered. "I think they do not yet fully accept lesbian and gay rights organizations as being part of the federal civil rights community," said Wolfson.

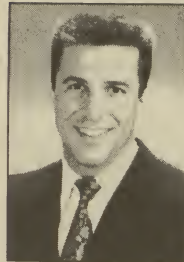
Coudriet, too, believes lesbians and gays are shut out from the political process, and asked the rhetorical question: If not now, when? "If we don't have that kind of ... consideration with a Democratic administration, when will we have it? I'm not willing to wait until the next century," he said.

He believes lesbians and gays must, as a community, "insist that our agenda is part of the agenda for that office [civil rights]. It is only going to become that if we insist that it become that."

An unnamed White House source concedes there is no nominee in mind for the civil rights job at present. The selection process seems likely to take months.

Besides the post of Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, the administration

has failed to fill most of its important civil rights positions in government agencies, including the Department of Labor. Nor has it nominated anyone to head the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which hears thousands of job bias complaints each month. ▼



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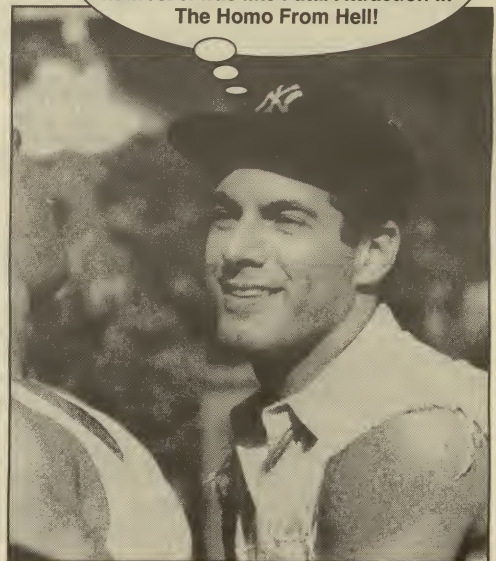


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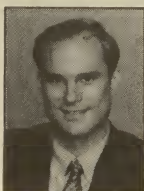
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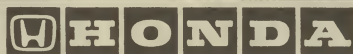
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## National News

# Millions Donated to AIDS, Gay Groups in Streisand's Name

by Crystal Caviness

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — MGM Grand Garden Hotel owner Kirk Kerkorian announced December 28 he will donate \$3.5 million to charities selected by singer Barbra Streisand as a salute to the entertainer's years of philanthropy.

Streisand performed two concerts during the New Year's weekend at the MGM Grand Garden Hotel, the new Las Vegas hotel owned by Kerkorian. The concerts were Streisand's first paid performances in 27 years.

In a gesture that started months ago, Kerkorian asked Streisand to choose the organizations that she would like to have benefit from his contribution, said Dick Guttman, a spokesman for the singer.

The benefactors will be a mix of social organizations, women's health research funds, and legal defense groups.

AIDS organizations and groups will receive the majority of the monies, a total of \$2 million.

The American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFar), Gay Men's Health Crisis, and AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) will each receive \$500,000. A donation of \$100,000 each will go to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation; Lambda Legal Defense Fund; Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), Los Angeles chapter; Hollywood Supports; and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

Streisand "has exceedingly intense social and political interests," Guttman said, "especially for people whose rights are often overlooked."

Other targeted funds will go, in \$100,000 increments, to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Children's Defense Fund, Women's Legal Defense Fund, American Jewish



Always willing to lend a hand.

Congress (of Southern California), Religious Action Center, and Drew Child Care Development Corp.

The New Israel Fund and the School of Medicine at the University of Southern California at Los Angeles each will receive \$200,000.

The UCLA School of Medicine donation will set up a Streisand Research Fund in Women's Cardiology.

### Breast cancer, too

According to a press release, remaining monies have been allocated to support breast cancer research and advocacy, an issue that affects a higher percentage of lesbians than heterosexual women.

Streisand has given away more than \$7.5 million during the past seven years through her Streisand Foundation, Guttman said. She most recently donated her 24-acre Malibu estate, valued at \$15 million, to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. An environmental research complex, to be known as the Streisand Center for Conservancy Studies, will be built on the property.

Streisand's appearances, which have been billed as inauguration performances for Las Vegas's newest hotel, sold out more than 30,000 seats in a few hours.

Reportedly, more than a million calls from as far away as Tokyo and New Delhi came in requesting tickets — within the first 24 hours after they went on sale.

The much-publicized event also brought an unexpected request from members of Congress.

In a letter to Streisand, Democratic Representative Anna Eshoo of California has asked the superstar to use the occasion to meet with casino cocktail waitresses to discuss working conditions, according to a release from Eshoo's office.

The letter, which was co-signed by ten other representatives, singled out Bob Maxey, chief executive officer at the MGM Grand Garden Hotel, as a key offender in degrading and archaic working conditions for women.

Refusing to issue a larger uniform to a waitress, even if pregnant, unless she agreed to breast implants, was one complaint by women who worked at the Rio Suite Hotel and Casino, where Maxey was general manager before moving to the MGM.

"We ask that you meet with these women and hear their story," the letter to Streisand read. "Your performance has already attracted a great deal of attention and we believe you are in a strong position to help them."

Guttman acknowledged that Streisand has received the letter and will respond to the request when Congress reconvenes in January.

"She does share with Eshoo and the other congresswomen the concern of denigration to women," Guttman said. ▽

## Stars Get Behind Gay Games Auction

by Crystal Caviness  
United Press International

Comedian Joan Rivers has agreed to host a dinner for 16 as one of the fantasy packages being auctioned at the Art & Fantasy Auction to benefit Gay Games IV, Wednesday, January 12, in Houston. Auction planners have gathered an assortment of items — including artwork, a Wurlitzer jukebox, vacation getaways, and hobnobbing with the stars — that they hope will entice bids.

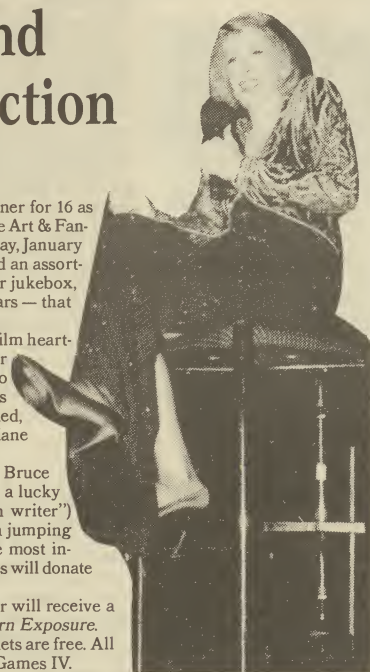
Who could pass up the chance to lunch with film heart-throb William Baldwin on a movie set? Or, for those who prefer hucksters to hunk stars, Gerald Rivera will take a bidder behind the scenes of his talk show in New York. And for the serious-minded, there's a chance for drinks with TV anchor Diane Sawyer.

Athletes take note: Olympic gold medalist Bruce Hayes will share his swimming expertise with a lucky someone. Equestrienne (and onetime "lesbian writer") Rita Mae Brown will give the highest bidder a jumping lesson at her Virginia horse farm. And for the most indefatigable of workout enthusiasts, Gregory Hines will donate a personal tap-dancing lesson.

There's even a chance for fame, as one bidder will receive a one-time walk-on role on the hit series *Northern Exposure*.

If you'd like dinner following the auction, tickets are free. All you have to do is donate \$500 or more to Gay Games IV.

Call (212) 633-9494 for more information. ▽



Gay-friendly funny lady Joan Rivers.



## Callen

(Continued from page 1)

men still hungered for more sexual freedom. He logged 180,000 air miles trying to convince doctors to practice PCP prophylaxis. He founded the Community Research Initiative — the first attempt by the gay community to conduct its own AIDS research. He publically fought Project Inform's Martin Delaney, and others, on the effectiveness of AZT.

Callen also adopted the feminist notion of self-empowerment to the AIDS crisis, starting and pushing for PWA organizations that demanded a place on panels and boards to aggressively give PWAs a voice. He started and wrote the *PWA Newslines*. He, among others, started drug buyers clubs.

His final bout with the illness kept Callen from attending the recent premiere of *Philadelphia*, Jonathan Demme's new film about PWA rights, in which he made a brief appearance with the "Flirts," as the Flirtations were nicknamed. But he was cheered to learn that Tom Hanks, the film's star, said at a star-studded party after the premiere he had repeatedly listened to the Flirtation's *Out on the Road* CD in his trailer during filming. The information perked Callen up, though he was disappointed at not being able to see the movie.

Callen also fought off bouts of depression that he would not live to see his double-CD album *Legacy* produced. Last year, several months before he was told once again that he had only "six weeks to live," Callen decided he wanted to be remembered as a musician, according to a draft of liner notes written December 6. He wanted "a musical summing-up of my life."

He drafted his ex-lover Richard Dworkin, who also produced *Purple Heart*, plus singers Holly Near, Cris Williamson (he loved lesbians) and others to help him com-

but had never gotten around to because I'd been called away to be a reluctant general in a terrible war."

By the time Callen died at the age of 38, he'd recorded 52 songs for *Legacy* — "all of them deeply homosexual."

Although he missed *Philadelphia* and seeing *Legacy* produced, he did get a chance to see his performance in a video of the upcoming Canadian spoof *Zero Patience*, in which he acted the role of "Miss HIV." It is a role that is guaranteed to draw a few chuckles, since Callen — along with a handful of others including his New York-based doctor Joseph Sonnabend — vehemently decried the medical establishment's insistence that HIV is the sole cause of AIDS.

"The one thing I will go to my grave not understanding is why a generation raised on Vietnam and the aftermath of Vietnam was so quick to accept everything the government said as truth. Especially the central myth: 'The cause of AIDS is known.' What in the world made activists accept that — on the basis of a press conference, no less?" Callen asked, referring to the

news conference delivered by discredited/rehabilitated/ re-discredited/re-rehabilitated researcher Robert Gallo in the early 1980s

"My only theory is AIDS is a disease that requires the daily management of massive amounts of uncertainty," Callen wrote in a goodbye message to the gay community, prepared for a forthcoming issue of *Genre* magazine. "And people cling to any certainty they can find. Even if it's false. Once HIV was declared to be the cause of AIDS it became impossible to debate whether it was or not. It was settled by semantic fiat."

Even on his death bed, Callen was committed to connecting with, and advocating for, those he called "my people" — a phrase that held no connotation of ownership, but which resonated with camaraderie. And to the end he held the combination of sweetness and toughness that is so evident in the lyrics to "Love Don't Need a Reason":  
*"Love don't need a reason,  
 Love's never a crime.  
 And love is all we have for now..."*

*What we don't have is time."* ▼



Michael Callen at 21, casting his famous come-hither look.

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Michael Callen in 1993.

(Photo: Beth Kukucka)

plete his "crazy" undertaking.

"My reputation as the Comeback Kid held true, and I stumbled on a new chemotherapy drug, Doxil, which cleared the KS that was covering 75 percent of my lungs. As the project continued, I actually sang better and better, instead of — as expected — the other way around. Perhaps it was because I was happier than I'd ever been, doing what I'd always wanted to do



# At Last: A Record of Gays in the Holocaust

## Survivors Speak in New German Documentary

by Bob Roehr

They were the first to wear the pink triangle, these old men, physically frail as you would expect of men in their eighties and nineties: they are survivors of Nazi death camps, persecuted because they were gay. Their faces, peering at viewers from a screen, both chilled and warmed the audience assembled at the United States



Two friends from Posen. Germany 1910-1930.

(Photo: Schwules Museum, Berlin; Courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Holocaust Memorial Museum on December 12.

The museum presented the first of its adult education programs on gays and the holocaust that evening, centered around a documentary program of interviews with three gay survivors that first aired on German regional television in 1991, *We Were Marked with a Big "A."* The title refers to the "A" for *Arschflicker* (ass-fucker) that Nazis used as the identifying mark for homosexuals in the camps before the colored tri-

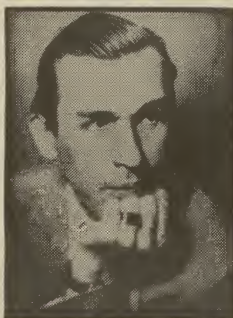
angle system was developed.

Friedrich-Paul von Groszheim, one of those in the documentary, was asked to participate in person but he declined, saying that at 88 he didn't want to travel to Washington in December without his lover, who couldn't get time off from work.

The documentary itself is no technical wonder, its shoestring budget apparent in clunky production values. But it is amazing that it was done at all, to finally provide some bits of human faces testifying, breathing life into gay stories of the holocaust, before they too die and their stories — our stories — are lost.

There is a strength of character in their voices that shines through the aging flesh and transcends the barrier of a foreign language known only through subtitles. They are survivors of both the death camps and of post-war persecution only slightly more benign.

Their stories are of duplicity and arrest. Of witnessed humiliation, beatings, and death. Of survival in work camps in coastal swamps and north of the Arctic Circle in Norway, building roads and shoveling snow in paper shoes that disintegrated with-



Gay actor and author Robert Odeman escaped from a Nazi death camp in 1945. (Photo: Schwules Museum, Berlin; Courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)



Girls' night out: a stylish lesbian nightclub in pre-Holocaust Berlin.

(Photo: Schwules Museum, Berlin; Courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

in hours. Of castration.

They are living windows to what Hannah Arendt called "the banality of evil" that men can do; a chilling glimpse of how tenuous our grasp on civilization is, and how even a society as advanced as twentieth-century Germany can descend into inhumanity toward their fellow man.

Most of all, they are examples of the triumph of the human spirit. One stands in awe of their sheer humanity.

The tone for the remarkable documentary was set by the speakers who preceded the film.

"Most museums are celebratory, most museums are monuments to humanity's achievements," said gay Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank. "This [museum] is a reminder of inhumanity at its worst, put up because there was a national consensus that it was important to have a continuing reminder of what depths men and women can fall to, in an effort to prevent any kind of recurrence."

"To the bigots, we all look the same," he continued, stressing the importance of making one common cause between all groups with a history of oppression. And he pledged to work to remove vestiges of anti-gay discrimination that remain codified into law.

**Most of all, they are examples of the triumph of the human spirit.**

"In 1945, when the world focused with sympathy on the victims and survivors, the gay and lesbian victims returned to the closet as a means of self-protection," said museum deputy director Elaine Keumann Gurian. "They were denied even the beneficial healing associated with the telling of their story."

"So it is no wonder that when we, the United States Holocaust Museum, set out to find tangible proof about homosexuals and the holocaust, it was simply not available — both because it was destroyed and/or because it was hidden and known only to a few."

Gurian went on to talk

about how museum officials came into contact with Dr. Klaus Muller, their consultant/curator on gays and the holocaust, and how the museum has come to include gays into the context of his exhibition, research, and education programs.

"Part of our purpose is that there should be a relationship between historical events and contemporary issues in life," said Raye Farr, director of the film and video department and archive at the museum. She and others noted that the auditorium was full, the first time that a museum adult education program had been oversubscribed in advance. It augurs well for the next series of education programs on gays and the holocaust, scheduled for mid-May.

Muller came last. He spoke of Nazi persecution of homosexuals and how much of it continued in post-war Ger-



Lipstick lesbians are not a recent phenomenon from the diverse gay life of pre-Holocaust

(Photo: Schwules Museum, Berlin; Co-

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gether a book to help bring together people who are serious about renting to PWAs and PWAs who need housing. The service is free to everyone and the book will be updated as new entries are received. Whether we admit it or not, many PWAs face subtle, and sometimes blatant discrimination from within our own community when it comes to housing.

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**"When the world focused with sympathy on victims and survivors, the gay and lesbian victims were denied even the beneficial healing associated with the telling of their story."**  
**—Museum Deputy Director Elaine Keumann Gurian.**

many until 1969 because it was still illegal to be gay. But mainly he spoke of his experience working with the survivors, befriending them and slowly, over time, seeing them open up and tell more of the stories that were both painful to live through and largely been suppressed for decades. There was a great warmth and fondness in his voice as he spoke of the men. Miller closed by dedicating the program to a survivor,

Karl Gorath, who turned 81 that day. Gorath was 26 on the fateful day in 1939 when he was denounced and turned over to the Gestapo by a jealous lover. ▼

[The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is located at 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2150, a few blocks south of Smithsonian Institution museums on the Mall. Access is limited, to control crowds, and advance tickets are strongly recommended. They are free but can be ordered through TicketMaster (1-800-551-7328) for a small service fee.

Use of the documentary We Were Marked with a Big "A" is currently restricted. The museum is working to resolve those legal matters and hopes that shortly it will be available for wider use.

Research and program activity on gays and lesbians and the holocaust are supported by private contributions. To identify your gift as coming from the gay and lesbian community, write the code 8014 on your check and send to the attention of Brenda Fraser.]



A portrait of two friends. Berlin, Germany 1926.

(Photo: Schwules Museum, Berlin; Courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)



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PHOTOGRAPHY: KENT KALLBERG



phenomenon as is evidenced by these scenes  
 holocaust Berlin.

, Berlin; Courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)



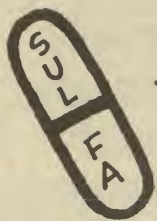
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This study will recruit participants whose T-cell counts are between 200-500, and who have taken AZT for at least 4 months but no longer than 1 year. No prior ddI or ddC use is allowed. There are also limited spaces for participants who have never taken any anti-retroviral drugs.

For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

# 1993: The Year in Review

## Third in a Series

The second half of the year for San Francisco lesbians and gays was kicked off, as usual, at the annual **Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade** and Celebration, with the controversial theme "The Year Of The Queer." Mayor Frank Jordan abruptly cancelled plans to ride in the parade after Parade committee organizers warned him of threats to his personal safety and claimed that his presence would lead to civil disobedience and violence. After Jordan withdrew, parade committee organizers then criticized him for not appearing — but not before they tipped off the press about the best place along the parade route to film demonstrations that never materialized. Although parade organizers billed the parade as the largest ever in San Francisco, police estimated the crowd at 300,000.



SF's lesbian supervisors, Carole Migden and Susan Leal, ride in style during the annual Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade on Market Street.  
(Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics)

Proposals to cut \$70 million from the city's \$647 **Health Department** budget drew more than 1,000 protesters to the steps of city Hall and the Board of Supervisors chambers at the end of June. The protest was organized by the Coalition For Public Health, which included AIDS activists and members of the Women's Action Coalition, who held a brief but raucous protest in front of Mayor Jordan's office.

Controversy began to erupt on the pages of the *Bay Area Reporter* in July over the Reverend **Eugene Lumpkin**, a member of the city's Human Rights Commission. Five members of the Board of Supervisors recommended that Lumpkin be fired from the HRC because of his remarks about AIDS and homosexuality to local journalist Evelyn C. White.

"It's sad that people have AIDS and what have you, but it says right there in scripture that homosexuality is an abomination against God," Lumpkin, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, told White.

Mayor Jordan refused to dismiss Lumpkin, saying that the commissioner had a First Amendment right to freely state his beliefs. Lesbians and Gays of African Descent For Democratic Action and the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club joined with Supervisors Susan Leal, Carole Migden, Angela Alioto, and Kevin Shelley in calling for Lumpkin's ouster.

**Kristine Gebbe's** appointment as White House AIDS coordinator drew fire from AIDS activists skeptical of her ability to fill the post. Activist Larry Kramer, founder of ACT UP, said that Gebbe was unsuitable for the position and that President Clinton lacked a real commitment to fighting AIDS.

**President Clinton** came to town to give a talk to the National Education Association, and granted an interview with a local straight daily — on the condition that he would not be asked about the gays in the military issue.

A resolution was introduced by **Assemblyman John Burton** (D-San Francisco) to divest some \$4 billion

in state deposits from the Bank of America. The resolution, HR 20, blasted the bank's employment practices and was particularly critical that the bank reduced employee work hours in order to cut health benefits — while reaping more than \$1.5 billion in profits last year.



An abomination all to himself, the Rev. Eugene Lumpkin.  
(Photo: Judi Parks)

The California Army National Guard began discharge proceedings against **Lieutenant Charles Andrew Holmes**, who came out in support of Barney Frank's proposed compromise on gays in the military. Holmes was a full time platoon leader in the CANG Counter Narcotics Task Force, whose activities include marijuana eradication and cocaine and methamphetamine interdiction.

Petitions, bearing more than 2,400 signatures of those opposed to **California's refusal to allow lesbian and gay couples to adopt children**, were forwarded to the California Department of Social Services. The DSS policy had been in effect since 1986, even though unmarried single adults of any sexual orientation were allowed to adopt children. Family law judges usually overrode the DSS rule.

**Operation Rescue's** grand plans to shut down abortion clinics around the country fizzled. In San Jose, several days of skirmishes with pro-choice activists ended in 55 arrests of anti-abortion activists, and four arrests of pro-choice activists. More than 2,000 pro-choice activists provided clinic escorts and protected property throughout the Bay Area during the battle with the fundamentalists.

The **Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church** severed its relationship with the Bank of America and moved its accounts to another bank because of BofA's corporate policy of funding the anti-gay Boy Scouts of America.

On July 20, 41 protesters were arrested at a demonstration at the Federal Building, 11 protesters were arrested in DC and a second night of protests in Los Angeles drew 300 participants, down from 700 the night before. In addition to the marches, the cities of West Hollywood and Los Angeles issued resolutions condemning president Clinton's new compromise "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on gays in the military.

San Francisco Health Department Director **Ray Baxter** announced his resignation on July 20, one day after the Board of Supervisors approved a severely curtailed Health Department budget of \$600 million. Baxter's resignation had been rumored for months. Baxter was credited with paring the cumbersome Health Department bureaucracy during his tenure, but believed that the cuts hampered San Francisco's ability to provide adequate health care to needy residents.

The Colorado Supreme Court refused to lift an injunction against the state's anti-gay **Amendment 2**. The measure banned state and local laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Such laws were already on the books in Aspen, Denver, and Boulder, Colorado. The court cited the 14th Amendment in refusing to lift an injunction against

(Continued on next page)



(Continued from previous page)

the measure issue on January 2. Despite the injunction, a boycott of Colorado had cost the state millions of dollars in convention and tourist business.

Two Florida lesbians sued for the right to marry. The state added a ban on same sex marriage to the law in 1977. The lawsuit was filed against the state of Florida and the office of the Clerk of the Orange County Court, which denied the couple the license.

Some 50 demonstrators from City Hall Tours, a coalition of groups critical of the city's \$2.71 billion budget, held a noisy but peaceful demonstration at City Hall. Groups participating in the protest included the Women's Action Coalition, and other groups. The protesters opposed \$30 million in health care budget cuts and the board's failure to adopt "progressive revenue taxes," including taxes on large local businesses, and increased payroll taxes.

\$2.6 million was raised for a variety of AIDS programs throughout Northern California in the 1993 annual AIDS Walk. More than 17,000 people walked ten kilometers to raise the pledges. The funds were divided among 22 AIDS groups.

Community United Against Violence hired Lester Olmsted-Rose as executive director of the 13-year-old agency. A former community organizer for the group, Olmsted-Rose had been an aide to Supervisor Angela Alioto for three years before taking the \$38,000-per-year post.

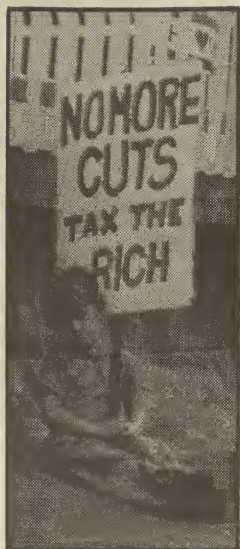
The Contra Costa Municipal Court accepted a plea change from no contest to not guilty in election fraud charges from Gil Block, who ran a full drag, tongue-in-cheek campaign for a seat on the Concord City Council in 1991. Block had originally pleaded no contest to the charges, brought because he was a resident of San Francisco running for the Concord seat. Block's candidacy was a protest against Traditional Values Coalition-linked Reverend Lloyd Mashore, who was elected in 1989 to a Concord City Council seat — despite questions about his own residency. With his record clear, Block said he may ask to have the \$1,000 fine he paid when he pleaded no contest returned.

#### August

An Immigration and Naturalization Service administrative law judge granted a 32-year-old Brazilian man political asylum on the grounds that he suffered persecution because of his sexual orientation in his homeland. Judge Phillip Leadbetter granted asylum to Marcellino Tenorio, arrested in San Francisco in 1992, two years after Tenorio illegally entered the country from Mexico. Tenorio fled Brazil in 1989, following an attack by an anti-gay gang in Rio De Janeiro while leaving a gay disco.

Christopher Cribbins and Jeff Raines pleaded guilty to the bashing of Loc Mihn Truong, a 55-year-old Vietnamese man in Laguna Beach in January. Raines pleaded

guilty to attempted murder and aggravated assault, and Cribbins pleaded guilty to aggravated assault. Both also pleaded guilty to hate crimes. Raines would have received no more than 11 years in prison, and Cribbins got a maximum sentence of one year in county jail.



A future ACT UP member expresses a widely held sentiment. (Photo: Judi Parks)

More than 40 people, mostly Shanti Project volunteers and clients, attended a community meeting with the Shanti Board of Directors at Douglass Alternative School in the Castro. The meeting was called to talk about issues facing the agency since it was stripped of housing service contracts for people with AIDS earlier in the year. President of the board, Doug Holloway, said the agency hoped to have a new executive director by October 1, and that it would repay funds that may have been misspent within the agency.

A longtime AIDS activist and former director of public policy for 18th Street services, Mike Shriver was appointed director of Mobilization Against AIDS. Shriver, a 30-year-old graduate of the University of Notre Dame, started his new post on August 2.

At least four lesbian and gay city commissioners expressed concern over a controversial newspaper ad that appeared in August, slamming Mayor Jordan's refusal to dismiss the Reverend Eugene Lumpkin from the city's Human Rights Commission. The ad, paid for by longtime anti-Jordan activists, called the Commissioners "collaborationists" for their silence regarding Lumpkin's controversial anti-gay comments.

A coordinated effort to plan for a San Francisco lesbian and gay community center was underway, according to Supervisor Carole Migden's office. A planning group of 40 people, under the fiscal agency of the Women's Building, had applied for \$50,000 in funds from the Mayor's Office of Community Development to develop a comprehensive plan for such a program.

Napa police investigated San Francisco leads and a gay angle in the brutal murder of a popular North Bay Roman Catholic priest who was found

stabbed to death in his Napa home. The body of Queen of the Angels hospital chaplain Father Ronald Maupin was discovered after he failed to show up for work in early August. Maupin, according to Napa homicide investigators, had last been seen several days earlier at a San Francisco gay bar. James Jennings, a 22-year-old parolee from the California Youth Authority, was later arrested for the murder.

Army Sergeant Kenneth French killed four people in a Fayetteville, North Carolina restaurant after opening fire with two 12 gauge shotguns and a .22 caliber rifle. Before the rampage, French was shouting about gays in the military, according to witnesses. Six others were wounded, including the suspected gunman.

Some 250 lesbian and gay Catholics spoke out in Voices That Challenge, a prayer rally (Continued on page 20)

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Steve Simon, President

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## '93 Year In Review

(Continued from previous page)

held in Denver in early August in anticipation of the visit of anti-gay Pope John Paul II to the anti-gay state of Colorado. The rally was organized by Dignity, a group of gay Catholics, and was matched by simultaneous rallies in 85 cities across the United States.

100 trees from 18 different species were planted on the Castro by volunteers for the non-profit Friends of the Urban Forest. The trees in-

cluded flowering cherry and plums, magnolia, and Victorian and Brisbane Box.

Longtime gay activists and Human Rights Campaign Fund founder **Steven Endean** died of AIDS-related illness at the age of 44 in Washington, DC. Endean was the first director of the Gay Rights National Lobby, from which HCRF originally sprang.

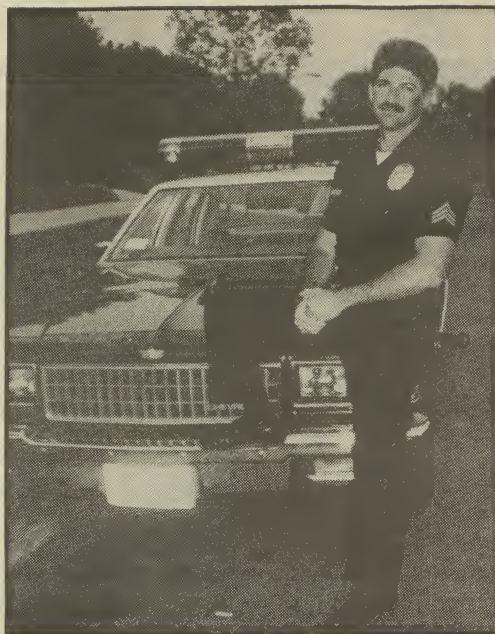
Bay Area Reporter political editor and District Attorney investigator **Wayne Friday**

was appointed to the San Francisco Police Commission by Mayor Jordan. Friday is a former president of the San Francisco Tavern Guild and a member of the Golden State Peace Officers Association, a gay law enforcement group.

A 21-year-old gay man filed a suit against **Emporium Capwell**, alleging he was sexually assaulted in the company's Market Street store earlier in the year. The suit was filed by attorney Scott Gursky on behalf of the man, who alleged that as he was relieving himself in the public restroom, an assailant forced his way into the stall and forced the victim to orally copulate him. The victim, described in the suit as John Doe, pulled a penknife from his coat and stabbed the rapist in the scrotum. The assailant fled the scene.

The California State Supreme Court announced that it would review three lower court decisions that invalidated the **San Francisco Human Rights Ordinance** that gives lesbian and gays the right to sue for discrimination in housing and employment.

**Mitch Grobeson**, the former Los Angeles police sergeant who won a gay job bias lawsuit against the LAPD, returned to that city's police force after five years with the San Francisco Police Department. LAPD



SF's loss was LA's gain when Sgt. Mitch Grobeson returned to the LAPD after he won his bias lawsuit against that city.

had agreed to reinstate Grobeson, and to pay him \$770,000.

Mayor **Frank Jordan** fired the Reverend **Eugene Lumpkin** on August 20, in the latest flap over Lumpkin's religious beliefs about homosexuality. Jordan ordered Lumpkin to resign or be fired from the Human Rights Commission after the commissioner refused to repudiate biblical passage that called for the death penalty for homosexuals. Lumpkin had indicated that he supported such passages on a local television talk show. Lumpkin, the 59-year-old pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church had been under fire since Gay Pride Day, for his controversial comments regarding gays and lesbians and his continued tenure on the city's Human Rights Commission. Lumpkin said that he would sue Jordan to be reappointed to his seat, and retained right wing attorneys from the Rutherford Institute to advise him of his legal options. Jordan said that Lumpkin had clearly overstepped the boundaries of free speech.

### September

An attempt to have the San Francisco gay rights ordinance thrown out was made by a local attorney. The lawyer, **Garret Sanderson**, was selected by the City Attorney's Office to defend the city, Laguna Honda Hospital, and the medical director of the site against charges of sexual orientation discrimination, lodged by a gay psychologist. Sanderson entered a motion to have the ordinance ruled invalid, but attorneys for the employee dropped a charge that the Laguna Hospital director discriminated against him. An out-of-court settlement was expected in the suit.

The Defense Department released the taxpayer-funded \$1.3 million **Rand Corporation** report that recommended allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly in the Armed Forces. The study was commissioned by Defense Secretary Les Aspin, but not released because it contradicted Clinton's policy on gays in the military and pointed out that the Commander-in-Chief caved into pressure from the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the issue.

Openly gay candidate, and former Santa Cruz Mayor **John Laird** lost his bid for the state Assembly on August 31. Laird came in third, behind front runners Democrat Gary Patton and Republican Bruce McPherson. Laird received 15.9 percent of the vote and was never able to overcome the lead held by Patton, who received 23.8 percent of the vote.

**Roseann Peterson** faced her first hearing in Solano County Court on charges that she murdered her lover **Laura Venable** in March. Venable's decapitated body was found wrapped in a sleeping bag and buried in a wicker basket in a grassy area in Vallejo, California. Peterson admitted killing Venable but said the homicide occurred after Venable assaulted her with a baseball bat.

The state Assembly approved a measure that expanded confidentiality of HIV test results to include t-cell counts. The measure required doctors to obtain permission from patients before releasing the results, and barred insurers and employers from using the information, which is an indicator of immune system functioning, as an underwriting tool.

**Torie Osborn** resigned as director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Osborn had been under fire for the agency's bungling of the gays in the military and Osborn acknowledged she was more interested in being a media star and spokeswoman than in the nuts-and-bolts, day-to-day operations and management of NGLTF.

**Continuum HIV Services** filed a federal lawsuit against California's Department of Health Services, charging the state discriminated against PWA clients of the program by denying MediCal benefits for routine adult day health services. The suit charged the state with violating the Americans With Disabilities Act, and said that the refusal to reimburse Continuum for funds

(Continued on next page)

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## '93 Year In Review

(Continued from previous page)

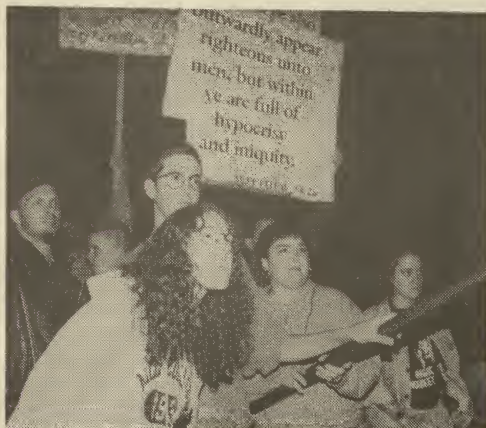
placed the agency in such financial jeopardy that the program was threatened. The state settled out of court, agreed to reimburse the agency almost \$300,000, and agreed to pay for client services for which the agency billed.

Porn Star **Jeff Stryker** sued two Los Angeles firms saying they didn't have permission to use two models of his penis to make and sell as realistic rubber dildos. The breach of contract suit charged Health Devices, Inc., which sold the sex toy under the Doc Johnson label, to pay Stryker \$25,000—and if Stryker cashed the check, the suit would be dismissed.

Mayor Frank Jordan appointed **James Mayo**, a director of the United Negro College Fund and a trustee of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, to replace Eugene Lumpkin on the city's Human Rights Commission.

A new warden was appointed at the **California Medical Facility at Vacaville**, to succeed the controversial warden who oversaw the institution for a year. New warden Mike Pickett, 48, had a reputation for "open-mindedness and liberality," according to an ACT UP spokesperson. The 3,266-inmate facility is the hospital for the California state prison system and houses an estimated 350 prisoners with AIDS. The facility was the subject of major press attention in October 1993, after a hunger and medication strike by HIV-positive inmates alleging substandard medical care led to at least one patient death. State Assemblyman John Burton conducted an investigation by the Assembly Public Safety committee, and issued 22 recommendations that would remedy the poor conditions.

**NGLTF** was again the subject of controversy, for taking money from the Bank of America as a corporate sponsor of its annual Silicon Valley fundraiser for "gays in the workplace" issues. The bank funds the anti-gay Boy Scouts of America, but NGLTF said the bank had a great track record on supporting gay and lesbian workers, so it took the cash, despite criticism from gay activists who said the incident underscored how elitist the organization was—and how out of touch with local activists and issues.



An angry crowd of gay men and lesbians protested the Sept. 19 appearance of homophobe Lou Sheldon at the Hamilton Square Baptist Church on Franklin Street in support of — surprise — Eugene Lumpkin.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

A gay attorney previously charged with stealing \$45,000 from a client with AIDS was indicted in five additional perjury and grand theft charges. **Walter Caplan**, who was charged with filing false claims against the estate of the late Robert Cramer and owing \$36,000 to the estate of Robert Owens. Caplan could face ten years in prison if convicted of the criminal charges.

Washington, D.C. repealed its **sodomy laws**, a move that had to be reviewed by Congress, which has the authority to veto legislation in the federal district.

Almost 200 angry lesbians and gays demonstrated at **Hamilton Square Baptist Church** on Franklin Street on September 19, to protest an advertised talk by Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition. Sheldon appeared at the church in support of the Reverend Eugene Lumpkin.

Sergeant **Justin Elzie** filed a federal suit, charging his discharge from the Marine Corps was unconstitutional. After Elzie announced his homosexuality on national television in January, he was subjected to a Marine Corps hearing, in which it was acknowledged there was no evidence that he had—or would—engage in homosexual conduct. Elzie claims his dismissal violated equal protection and due process clauses of the U.S. Constitution, and also violated his free speech rights.

A benefit for the late gay rights activist **Tede Matthews** netted \$4,400 dollars for the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission's work Central America, and for other progressive causes. The benefit, commemorating the life and work of the legendary activist-poet, drew more than 400 people—including poets and writers Adrienne Rich, June Jordan, Dorothy Allison, and Cherrie Moraga.

A bill proposing that the state sanction pilot **needle exchange programs** to reduce to the risk of HIV among injection drug users, by providing them with sterile injection equipment and linking the programs to drug treatment, went to Governor Pete Wilson for signature after passing the state assembly and senate. Wilson eventually vetoed the measure, as he did a similar version of the bill a year earlier. ▼

## Health News

# The Medical News of 1993

by Douglas A. Levy  
UPI Science Editor

WASHINGTON — While scientific advances raised new hopes for people suffering from a host of diseases in 1993, the year's events prompted some heavy debates over how medical technology should be applied.

A report of the first cloning of a human embryo and the continued efforts of a retired Michigan pathologist to help terminally ill patients commit suicide also focused ethical debates.

And, when a National Cancer Institute researcher announced he found evidence of a gene at least partly responsible for male homosexuality, activists on both sides of the gay rights debate raised concerns that such information could be misinterpreted.

"Nothing will be more troublesome to deal with than the development of genetic tests that arguably predict behavior," said Dr. Philip Reilly, former chairman of the social issues committee of the American Society of Human Genetics. But he added that a number of state legislatures already are considering the implications of genetic testing and what legislation is needed to protect individual information.

Close to year's end, Dr. Daniel Cohen of the Centre d'Etude du Polymorphisme Humain in Paris announced the most complete map of the human genome yet developed

— a "guidebook" for researchers trying to locate genes responsible for diseases such as epilepsy, muscular dystrophies, diabetes, and cancers, said Francois Gros, secretary of the French Academy of Sciences.

"Before today, a physical map existed for only two percent of the human genome. Our map covers about 90 percent of the genome," said Cohen.

### A "future diary"

Pinpointing a genetic defect that makes a person susceptible to a disease means a simple blood test can identify those at greatest risk. But some fear this information could be used by insurance companies and employers to deny employment to a person who might show a genetic disposition toward homosexuality or health benefits to those who may be likely to develop a disease later on.

"It can be thought of as your 'future diary,'" said Boston University's George Annas, a medical ethicist. "It's written in code that we are breaking every day, and ... it tells you what probably will happen in terms of your health in the future."

Among other medical developments in 1993:

• An outbreak of a mystery disease, first identified in the Four Corners area of the Southwest United States, struck at least 50 people in 14 states. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control counted 29

deaths as of December 20, blaming them on a previously unknown "hantavirus" infection passed from tiny deer mice to humans.

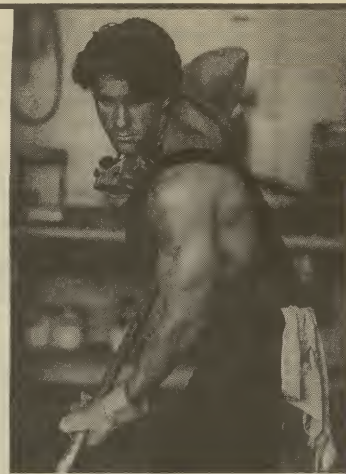
• An Australian doctor suspended his practice after epidemiologists determined four women were infected with HIV after he performed minor surgery first on an HIV-positive man and then the four women. Investigators suspected the virus was transmitted via a scalpel handle that had not been sterilized using the most effective method.

• Doctors also reported the first two known cases of HIV transmission within a household. One occurred when a brother apparently shared a razor with his HIV-infected, hemophilic brother. The other was attributed to a child coming in contact with an HIV-infected child's blood from a nosebleed or a sore in his mouth.

• The National Cancer Institute revised its breast cancer screening guidelines, urging regular mammography starting at age 50 instead of 40, while studies linked alcohol consumption and exposure to pesticides such as DDT to development of breast cancer.

• Public health experts detected what they considered a disturbing trend among teens and young adults to disregard precautions against AIDS, despite awareness of the disease and how to prevent infection. ▼

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## Dispute over Molecule Splits Gallo and French Again

## What's a CD26 — and Does It Matter?

by Douglas A. Levy  
UPI Science Editor

WASHINGTON — A French researcher said Thursday, December 23, he has found a molecule essential in HIV infection, but other scientists familiar with the work doubted the claim.

Ara Hovanessian of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, said a molecule known as CD26 helps HIV get into human cells and that his experiments indicated that blocking CD26 would block HIV.

Scientists have known for several years that the virus binds to molecules known as CD4, but research has shown that CD4 was not the only molecule involved in cellular infection.

Identifying all the steps involved in HIV infection would enable scientists to develop strategies for vaccines

to prevent infection or treatments to reduce immune system damage after infection already occurs.

Hovanessian said he believes CD26 provides a key

**"It's  
potentially  
a very  
important  
observation."  
— Ara  
Hovanessian,  
Pasteur  
Institute**

that could lead to such vaccines or treatments.

"Having inhibitors against

CD26, you can block HIV entry. [HIV] can attach to the CD4 [molecule], however it cannot go through," said Hovanessian, in a telephone interview. "It's potentially a very important observation."

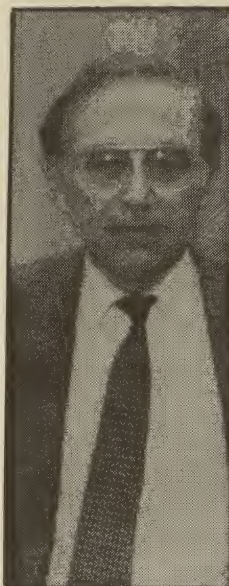
## Results in several years

But even if Hovanessian's conclusions are correct, results could not come for years.

"What we need now is to work on the preparation of inhibitors and vaccines," he said, adding that the inhibitor used in his laboratory tests could not work effectively in humans.

Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute called Hovanessian's work "interesting," but said it was only one piece of the AIDS biology puzzle.

"If it pans out the way it is currently interpreted, it will be important," he added.



Robert Gallo

But Dr. Joseph Sodroski of Harvard Medical School, Boston, said the excitement will wear off in a "few months" after other researchers demonstrate that Hovanessian's conclusions are wrong.

"I think the data are very weak in terms of supporting his conclusions," said Sodroski, who chaired a meeting in October at which Hovanessian presented his work, in an interview. "The conclusion that CD26 is an important molecule in the entry of the virus will not hold up."

Hovanessian's report was published in Friday's edition of the journal *Science*, whose editor said the research was twice reviewed by impartial scientists before acceptance.

"This paper was reviewed very thoroughly by respected investigators within and outside of the HIV community," said *Science* senior editor Barbara Jasny. ▼

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Detroit Housewives  
Throw Weird Sex Parties

United Press International

DETROIT — Women in Detroit will be able to add safe-sex house parties to their social calendars if the city's Planned Parenthood League can find enough easygoing hostesses.

The educational parties would mirror the popular living room get-togethers where women already learn about cosmetics, plastic Tupperware containers, and wicker baskets.

But instead of things for the kitchen, the parties would promote the kinds of healthy behavior necessary for survival in the era of breast cancer and AIDS.

The party program, called House to House, will start as soon as Planned Parenthood finds ten women willing to be trained to sponsor the parties on the city's trendy east side.

Hostesses would earn \$25 per party plus bonuses for

leading group games and giving away prizes before gently steering the conversation into heavy subjects.

"First of all, we're going to talk about health needs in general, because everybody isn't conversant about their bodies and things they need to do," said Planned Parenthood director Jacquelin Washington.

Once the talk gets rolling, partygoers could start talking about breast exams, birth control, and condoms. The hostesses would lead the discussions and provide information.

And it's not just for women. Husbands and children would be allowed to attend the parties, too.

If successful, the program could expand to other parts of the city.

Planned Parenthood got a \$10,540 grant from the Metro Health Foundation to train the hostesses. ▼

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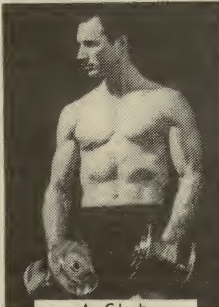
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## News Briefs

## Good Thing They're Not in Virginia...

Two male flamingos at the Rotterdam Zoo, having bonded themselves in a loving relationship, have bred a flamingo chick.

The two had repeatedly sought to steal eggs from female flamingos in order to hatch them as their own. Finally, feeling sorry for the birds, the zookeepers provided them with a fertilized egg. The proud "parents" have remained faithfully at the side of their young ever since.

—Staats-Zeitung, Germany

## Another Priest Charged with Sex Abuse

CAMBRIDGE — Another Roman Catholic priest in Massachusetts has been charged with sexually abusing a child.

The indictment, handed up by a Middlesex County grand jury Tuesday, December 28, accuses the Reverend Paul Manning of molesting an 11-year-old boy at the St. Charles Borromeo parish in Woburn on September 5.

Prosecutors said Manning allegedly fondled the unidentified boy's genitals in the parish rectory.

Manning, who has been suspended from his church duties while the case is pending, is due to be arraigned next month on a date still to be set, the Middlesex County district attorney's office said.

The case is the latest in a series of sex abuse cases involving Catholic priests in the state over the past two years, and comes less than two weeks after an Athol priest was charged with charged with raping a 20-year-old man who came to him for counseling.

— United Press International



# Getting a Flu Shot at Work? Danger Alert

by Charles S. Taylor

ATLANTA (UPI) - Doctors giving flu shots to employees at two workplace sites were observed reusing needles and syringes in violation of standard infection control practices, posing the danger of HIV transmission, health officials report.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the incidents occurred in Pennsylvania and in Washington, D.C., but did not further identify the locations or the companies involved. However, the CDC said there have been no reports of disease transmission as a result of the infection control breaches.

Although the CDC did not

mention the identity of the vaccine recipients, the Washington incident involved 19 employees of *Time Magazine*. Dan Goodgame, *Time* bureau chief, said those employees have undergone one round of blood tests and the results were "very encouraging."

Two more rounds of tests, administered within six months of the possible exposure to infection, must be given before the workers will know "if they are out of the woods," he said.

"We don't think these [incidents] are widespread," said Dr. David Bell, chief of the CDC's HIV infection control branch. "The great majority of doctors and nurses

wouldn't even dream of using the same needle on a person." The doctors involved in the two incidents, he said, "probably were not well trained in this area. It really should never have happened at all."

"It is important to reach those few who may not be doing this correctly," Bell said.

The reports of improper use of needles and syringes, and contamination of multidose medication vials, were received by the CDC since September. "These practices could potentially have exposed vaccine recipients" to infectious agents such as HIV and Hepatitis B, the CDC said.

In the District of Columbia incident, a company health officer reported that a physician retained to administer flu shots to employees "had been observed reusing needles to subsequently vaccinate other employees."

A supervisor at a worksite in a Pennsylvania city also reported that a doctor giving flu and pneumococcal vaccines to employees had been seen puncturing multidose vials of vaccine with needles that had

been used previously to inoculate patients.

"Further investigation and follow-up of the vaccine recipients are ongoing," the CDC said.

The health agency said mass immunizations — because of the frequency with which injections are given — increases the likelihood of infection transmission if proper infection control procedures are not followed. ▼

## 1,000,000,000-Year-Old HIV 'Missing Link' Discovered

United Press International

COLUMBUS, OHIO — Ohio State University researchers say they have found what appears to be the "missing link" connecting the ancient world of virus-like RNAs and other primitive entities to retroviruses and the modern world of DNA-based creatures.

The discovery reportedly provides new information about the origin of retroviruses that may cause diseases such as AIDS and cancer.

"We've found a very primitive version of present-day retroviruses, which may be related to the first genetic elements to replicate using DNA," said Alan Lambowitz, a professor of molecular genetics, biochemistry, and medical biochemistry at Ohio State University. He is also associated with Ohio State's Biotechnology Center and is an Ohio Eminent Scholar.

In a paper to be published in the next issue of the journal *Cell*, Lambowitz and He

Wang, a graduate student in molecular genetics, show that they've found genetic material with the characteristics expected of the first retrovirus-like entity.

"And this primitive entity may be the first step, the transitional form, of all modern DNA-based life forms," Lambowitz said.

"We think this may be right at the beginning of DNA developments. Not only does this help us tie everything together evolutionally, but this work will help us better understand retroviruses, maybe ultimately leading to the development of antiviral therapies."

Lambowitz and Wang did not discover this primitive ancestor of retroviruses in some fossilized insect, a *la Jurassic Park*. Instead, the "missing link" was found in the genetic material of a fungus that grows on decayed vegetation. The unusual genetic material was found within tiny organelles, called mitochondria, that produce the energy of

the cell.

"It was a surprise to find that the mitochondria contained these unusual entities," Lambowitz said. Mitochondria evolved from ancient bacteria that invaded cells. The retrovirus-like entities studied by Lambowitz and Wang may have originally been associated with these ancient bacteria before the origin of modern cells, more than one billion years ago.

The research supports the view that life began in an RNA world (and DNA-based things evolved later), and it traces the evolution of retroviruses from these RNA-based organisms. By studying how these primitive entities replicate, Lambowitz and his colleagues hope to gain insight into the replication of advanced viruses.

This work, the researchers said, could ultimately lead to the development of new therapeutic approaches for AIDS or hepatitis B, both of which are believed caused by retroviral-like elements. ▼

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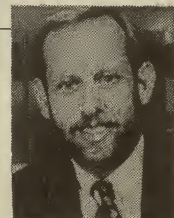
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## HIV-Positive Indonesians: 193 Known; 19,807 More Estimated

United Press International

JAKARTA — Alarmed by a sharp increase in the number of people carrying HIV, the Indonesian government has allocated more than \$2 million for programs designed to halt the spread of AIDS, the official news agency Antara reported Friday, December 31.

Health Minister Suyudi told Antara that there was a five-fold increase in the number of Indonesians infected with HIV in 1993, to 193.

"It's likely that the number of people who will contract HIV in the country will increase next year," Suyudi said, since the ministry is stepping up its blood-testing procedures for HIV infections.

Of the 193 HIV cases reported, 49 people have been

diagnosed as suffering from full-blown AIDS. Another 34 have died.

AIDS has spread to 15 of the country's 27 provinces, Suyudi said, adding that the government must become more active in providing information about the danger of contracting the disease.

"The government had allocated \$2.37 million in an effort to prevent further spreads of AIDS in the country," Suyudi said.

20,000, not 193

Officials have estimated that the actual number of people in the country who carry the virus may reach 20,000, compared to the official figures.

A senior government minister has warned recently that without prevention programs, the number of Indonesians in-

fect with HIV "could potentially jump up to 500,000 in 1995."

The government has urged the nation's religious leaders to become active in providing information about the dangers of AIDS.

The government also plans to attempt to enlist the help of pimps to educate prostitutes about prevention and urge those who seek paid sex to carry condoms.

Plans also are in motion to create a national body which will pull together various agencies to join forces to battle the disease.

Health officials have said AIDS is spreading more quickly in Asia because of changes in cultural and moral values and sexual norms brought on by an increase of tourism. ▼



## Obituaries

### David Leslie Blundell

Feb. 2, 1944–Nov. 26, 1993

Former San Francisco resident David Blundell died the day after Thanksgiving at Medical Center Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, due to complications of lymphoma.

David was born in Ireland to a long landed Anglo-Irish family, and spent his early years in English schools and at the family's Irish estate. An accomplished equestrian, David was past Master of Foxhounds for the Abbey Leaks Hunt in County Laois, Ireland, later moving to the racing com-

munity of Newmarket, England, to pursue his interests in the English country life.

In 1985, David moved to San Francisco as director of the shop of Swaine & Adeney. A very social, charming, intelligent, witty individual, David was the quintessential bon vivant. His generosity was unparalleled. Famous for his frequent luncheons at Bardelli's, the Press Club, La Posada and his lavish hospitality, David was the consummate host.

In 1990, David met his life partner, Paul Rivera, who was visiting from San Antonio, Texas. In 1991, David retired to San Antonio. Imagine a proper, educated, well-dressed Englishman driving a pick-up truck and wearing cowboy boots! Astounding! After moving to Texas, David and Paul hosted an open house, and many of his San Francisco friends flew down for the

event. This memorable weekend has been indelibly imprinted on the minds of all who were there and has been recounted on numerous occasions.

David will be remembered as a gentleman whose heart and friendship knew no bounds, and as a man of integrity whose taste, generosity, wisdom and society, few of us will soon forget.

David is survived by his partner, Paul Rivera; his children, Tristan, Seymour and Alissa Blundell; as well as his countless friends around the world. Godspeed our dear friend. We miss you so much.

There will be a celebration of David's life at Twin Peaks Tavern, Saturday, January 8, 1994, commencing at noon. Cheers, David! To you! ▼

### Frank DeFendis

December 22, 1993

After a long struggle with AIDS, Frank DeFendis passed away on December 22, 1993. He was 36 years old.

Frank was a friend whose capacity for enjoying all the things life had to offer was unmatched. Whether it was a career,

travel, sports, shopping or any of life's other pursuits, there were few things for which Frank did not hold sincerest enthusiasm. There were likewise few things at which Frank did not succeed — with the notable exception of snowboarding!

Frankie will be remembered by his friends for his tireless exuberance and warm generosity. He leaves an unfillable void in the lives of his friends, Dirk, Eric, George, John and Tom, and not least in the life of his loving mother, Marge.

A memorial service will be held in his honor at Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street, on January 15 at 11 a.m. ▼

### Michael R. Ebert

December 20, 1993

Michael died suddenly on December 20, 1993, of a heart attack, while he was vacationing in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Michael, who was also affectionately known as "Scarlett" among his friends, was famous for his

wry, occasionally wicked, sense of humor. He was a great opera and theatre fan, and was always ready with a musical *bon mot* to toss into any conversation.

He will be fondly remembered by his many friends within the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as among his colleagues at the Legal Division of the F.D.I.C.

Friends are invited to a memorial service at the Arthur J. Sullivan & Co. Funeral Home, 2254 Market Street, on Saturday, January 8, 1994, at 2 p.m. Donations to Project Open Hand are preferred. ▼

### Dennis Alan Ferguson

May 29, 1952–Nov. 17, 1993

Dennis Alan Ferguson passed away November 17, 1993, under the care of his mother at her home in Port Orange, Florida, of AIDS-related complications.

Dennis was born and raised in Newburgh, New York. He graduated from Valley Central High School and attended Orange County Community College, where he majored in English and science. At the age of 23, he moved to Boston, Mass., and worked at Boston General Hospital for 10 years. In 1984 he moved to San Francisco, California, where he worked at the University of California.

Dennis' love of traveling brought him to many diverse locations, such as Europe, Alaska and all across the U.S.A. He also enjoyed fine foods and had a great love for the theatre and the arts. Dennis was also very fond of the outdoors and enjoyed hiking, especially the many trips he made to Yosemite National Park.

When Dennis' diminishing energy made it difficult for him to live on his own, he moved to Florida from San Francisco on July 14, 1993, to live with his mother. He was fortunate to be surrounded by a loving and caring circle of family, friends and hospice caregivers. He was never alone.

Dennis was preceded in death by his lover and best friend of 15 years, Steven Downs, who died on September 22, 1989, of AIDS-related complications.

Dennis was survived by many friends and family from Boston, New York, San Francisco and Florida, including his mother Catherine Ferguson, brother Michael Ferguson and sister-in-law Nancy Ferguson.

His sense of humor and strong passion for life that sustained him through his many months of pain will be greatly missed by all who knew him. *Dennis, we greatly miss you and love you very much. Peace!* ▼

### Victor Flores

July 23, 1966–Dec. 30, 1993

Victor left us on the morning of December 30, with his family and lover at his side. A beautiful and artistic man, he will be missed by all his friends here in the U.S. and in Mexico. We remember Victor with affection and tenderness

for his great love for life and with a great deal of respect for his strength and courage to confront this disease.

Victor never let this disease take away his gift for giving. He was a volunteer for Shanti Project, Latino AIDS Project and was part of the Speakers Bureau. In 1992 he received an award from Shanti for his efforts in reaching out to the Latino community. He shared his experiences with his community that he was so proud of.

Born in Mexico, Victor came to the U.S. in October 1990. Victor was an artist who left behind a part of his soul through his artwork.

Victor loved life, and everyone who knew him loved him. He fought for his life until the very last moment.

We will miss your beautiful smile, your warm touch and your passion for life. You have taught us appreciation for life, and we will be forever indebted to you.

Victor will be missed by his parents, Victor and Lupita; sisters, Norma and Claudia; brother, Arturo; his lover, David; and his many friends.

Goodbye my baby.

Services were held at California Funeral Services on Thursday. Donations may be made in Victor's name to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., SF, CA 94110. ▼

### Kenneth Gilman

Sept. 6, 1940–Dec. 22, 1993

Kenneth Gilman died December 22 in San Francisco after a courageous five-year battle with AIDS. He was 53.

A native of Salem, Oregon, Gilman received his degree in accounting from California State University at Hayward in the 1960s.

Since the early 1970s, he was active in buying San Francisco real estate and renovating properties, starting with a Victorian on Castro Street.

From the early 1980s until his death, Gilman was the publisher and president of Public Management Institute (an SF reference book publishing firm). During this time he managed all the operations of the company, which was founded by his lover of 25 years, Daniel Lynn Conrad of San Francisco.

He is also survived by his parents, Bertha and Milan Gilman in Salem, Ore.; two sisters, Neva Andrus of Portland, Ore.; and Nadine Scott of Seattle, Wash.; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Contributions in his memory are being accepted at Project Open Hand, 2720 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. For information about a memorial service, please call (415) 896-1900. ▼

### Bruce Howard Greving

June 10, 1956–Dec. 10, 1993

Bruce died on December 10, 1993, after a long battle with AIDS. He will be remembered by his friends and family with every flower that blooms. His creative hands cared for many gardens in his 10 years working with Wescott

Landscape of Danville. Before this he worked at Hot & Hunky on 18th Street for two years.

Bruce is survived by his mother, Beverly Whitney of Waukon, Iowa; his father, Wayne Greving of Pella, Iowa; three brothers, Steve Greving of Ames, Iowa, Thom Greving of Kansas, Mo., and David Greving of Prairie City, Iowa; sister, Cindy Vos of Pella, Iowa; Marjorie Swanson, caregiver and cousin of David Walker of Minneapolis; and longtime best friend and caregiver, David Walker of Danville, Calif.

Services will be held here the week of January 10, 1994. For more information please call David Walker at (510) 735-6533. Donations may be made to the Contra Costa AIDS Project (510) 356-AIDS. ▼

### Nicky Jo Hink

July 1, 1954–Dec. 21, 1993

Nick Hink, originally from LA

("Lower Alabama"), found his way to the Bay Area via New Orleans, winning hearts and longtime friendships along the way. He arrived in San Francisco in 1984 and remained here until his death last month.

He worked for many years as a dialysis technician at Davies Medical Center and Mount Zion Hospital. He was loved dearly by patients and staff alike.

Nick was a respected and well-loved member of our community. For the past two years, he struggled valiantly against AIDS and won many near fatal battles. He used to tell us, "A cat has nine lives; well, girl, I'm twice the cat, so I got 18." Nicky was an endless source of inspiration to fellow patients, always advising them to take control, fight back, don't give up. This was his personal creed, and it filled him with an incredible energy and determination to live life to its fullest, to fight harder, to survive.

Nick leaves behind him a large circle of family and friends. He was an imitable style, a ruthless sense of humor, a pair of baby blues which twinkled and warned you he was up to something. The special way he touched us with his laughter, kindness, love of life, and friendship can never be replaced.

Sweet dreams, Nicky. God bless you and keep you safe always. ▼

### Bernard Thomas Moore

1961–1993

Bernie Moore was known to all as a great friend and lover of people. He will always be remembered for his love of the Castro and his great sense of humor. Bernie leaves behind a host of friends in all walks of life and his two loving

sisters, Peggy and Maureen.

Bernie moved to the Castro two years ago from NYC to enjoy our lifestyle as a clean and sober man. He touched the recovering communities of both SF and San Mateo counties through his professional and personal life. You are missed and loved by all who knew you, "deo volente."

Donations in Bernie's name may be made to the Henry Olaf House for recovering addicts. Services for Bernie will be held on Thursday, January 6, at 1:30 p.m. at the MCC on Eureka. ▼

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## Obituaries

### William Paul Roe "Billy"

Oct. 5, 1958-Dec. 2, 1993



Billy Roe, 35, of Houston, Texas, former San Francisco resident, passed away of AIDS complications on December 2, 1993.

Billy transferred from Southwestern Bell to San Francisco in 1981, where he worked for Pacific Bell until retirement in 1991 due to failing health. He resided in Houston for the past two years.

Billy always embraced life with zest. He was compassionate. He loved and was loved by many. He touched so many of us with his positive attitude, gentleness and kindness. We have all been enriched by this wonderful man and are comforted by our memories of him. We miss you very much, Billy.

He is survived by his parents, Rex C. Roe Sr. and his wife, Patricia; and Helen Germaine Roe; sister, Vicki Morgan; stepbrothers, Randy, David, and Michael McClendon; sister-in-law, Robyn Roe Woodell; his loving "Aunt Boo," Norma Brust of San Francisco; aunt and uncle, Jim and Merna Roe; and six nieces.

He is also survived by his friends: Cordis, John D., Jay, Kevin, Emmy, John B., Frank, Steve, Alice, Debbie, Barbara and Richard, Susan and Hans.

Memorial donations may be made to The Body Positive Support Group of Houston, Texas.

A memorial service is planned for Saturday, January 15, at 2 p.m., Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco. For further details call Emmy at (415) 550-0111. ▼

### Robert M. Stouder December 24, 1993

My good friend and big brother "Bobby," Robert M. Stouder, died with his lower Resty by his side on December 24, 1993, of the ravages of HIV disease. He was 41.

After growing up and attending high school in Millburn, New Jersey, Robert attended Steven F. Austin State University in Texas. He was a longtime resident of both New York City and San Francisco, and finally settled with his lower Resty in the South Bay. He became a research and development technician for Lifescan Inc., a division of Johnson & Johnson. He retired from the company in February of 1993 for health reasons, and in a letter he prepared for his co-workers, he said, "It is now time to stop and smell the roses and relax. This is not a tragedy, it is a transition; one that I am prepared to make when the time comes. So I go in peace, and wish the same to all of you."

In addition to his best friend, lover, and caregiver Resty Cruz, Robert leaves behind his parents, Robert and Dorothy Stouder of Hardin, Ky.; brother, Michael of Union, N.J.; brothers, Daniel and Donald of San Diego, Calif.; nephews, Torrey, Ethan, and Weston; numerous loving friends; and his co-workers at Lifescan. A celebration of life will take place on January 15, 1994, at The Hakone Japanese Gardens in Saratoga, Calif., at 2 p.m., and the family requests that donations in Robert's name be made to Project Inform of San Francisco. ▼

### Donald S. Wheeler Dec. 7, 1946-Dec. 20, 1993

A beautiful star has left our galaxy for another. Donald S. Wheeler left this earth December 20 at 8 p.m. with Carlos Rivera, his devoted and loving partner of 20 years, at his side.



Don was born and reared in Pikeville, Tennessee. He received his B.S. degree in medical technology in 1968 from Tennessee Technology University. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War and served in the medical unit from 1970-72.

Upon his discharge, Don moved to SF and met Carlos in 1974. Their life together included a couple of business ventures in real estate and several moves from Palm Springs to Florida and back to SF. They also enjoyed traveling extensively. Don worked for many years as a medical technologist at

SFGH and UCSF.

He is survived by his partner, Carlos Rivera of SF; mother, Dorothy Wheeler of Tennessee; several loving relatives from Ohio and Tennessee; and his many friends from San Francisco and Palm Springs who will feel a large void in their lives at the loss of such a precious friend. Don was a very gentle and caring soul who was always for the underdog. He had a passion and love for the American Indian culture. His humor and sharp wit will be missed. Most of all, even in the midst of his fight with the AIDS virus, he made those around him laugh and smile.

"I have passed a mountain peak and my soul is soaring in the firmament of complete and unbound freedom." We will all miss you, Don, but we shall be together again soon in eternity forever. ▼

### Robert James Wagaman Oct. 30, 1956-Dec. 18, 1993

"Enjoy life... this is not a dress rehearsal."



After a long and dignified struggle with AIDS, Robert peacefully and with a full heart took his last breath at his Santa Rosa home surrounded by his long-time companion, Michael Fischer, and many loving friends and family.

Wagaman (Bobbie Jim) was born in Pierre, South Dakota, on October 30, 1956. Rob served five years in the seminary before he arrived in San Francisco in 1982. He fell in love with and moved to Sonoma County in 1984, where he founded and operated his own cleaning and painting business, Buckets & Brooms.

Robert became involved with Face to Face at its inception. He served as a member of the board of directors, as an early advocate trainer, established the first HIV referral hotline, worked extensively as an advocate, and was active until his death with the education and prevention program of Face to Face. Rob often said, "My work with Face to Face was one of the highlights of my life." Robert's most recent accomplishment was graduation from the Hospital Chaplaincy Services training program.

Rob had a flair for gardening and painting. He could often be found with spade or brush in hand; his keen sense of design and color was beautifully expressed through landscape and interior design in his home as well as others. Robert also spent many loving hours with his two cherished miniature schnauzers, Zach and Ashley.

The amount of love surrounding Robert surpassed the riches of any kingdom. Rob believed in the continuum of love and spirit, often reassuring all of us that he will be there to protect and guide us. In life, Robert's love was a brilliant beacon in which he enfolded all those he cared about. Thank you, Rob, for having enriched our lives; life would have been a lot dimmer without you in it. You will be missed.

Robert is survived by his devoted partner, Michael Fischer of Santa Rosa; his parents, Jim and Rose; sisters, Cindy Wagaman and Kim Praener; and brother, Mike (all of Wyoming). In lieu of flowers, Rob requested contributions be given to Face to Face or a charity of your choice. A memorial service will be held January 8 at 3 p.m. at the Luther Burbank Center Concert Chamber. ▼

## Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

## California News

# They're Baaaaaaack: Sacto Legislators Return to Work

by Marghe Covino  
B.A.R. Capitol Correspondent

SACRAMENTO — Any one who stopped by the State Capitol on Monday, January 3, to see California's lawmakers resume their work must have been surprised to find more than 2,000 motorcycles lined up outside. But despite the appearance that Sacramento's legislators had succumbed to the lure of black leather and the call of the road, the truth was the cycles belonged to thousands of bike riders who were on hand to lobby for repeal of the helmet law.

Like the others who wandered the halls of the Capitol that day, the cyclists observed legislators meeting and greeting colleagues they hadn't seen since September, conducting a (very) little business over committee assignments and appointment hearings, and then promptly adjourning for the day "in memory of the kidnap and murder of Polly Klaas."

In this second-half session, lawmakers can act on bills that were tabled in 1993, as well as create new law. In addition, Governor Wilson has called a special legislative session that will run concurrently with the regular session, specifically to address the problem of rising crime. The governor is hoping at least some anti-crime legislation, such as the "three strikes you're out" bill, passes before he attends his planned Hollywood "crime summit" later this month. The "three strikes" measure is being augmented by a planned ballot initiative that would also give life sentences to three-time offenders.

Considering that 1994 is also a crucial election year, it was inevitable that special consumer interest bills, such as AB 6X by Richard Katz, D-Panorama, and AB 2418 by Jackie Speier, D-Burlingame, would be introduced. Katz's bill prevents violent criminals and sex offenders from earning work credits toward parole and sentence reduction, and Speier's bill prohibits merchants from setting prices for goods or services based solely on gender, i.e., higher prices for women in beauty salons, garages, and dry cleaning services. Assembly Speaker Willie Brown said he expects this session to be "tumultuous" because of "high profile" electioneering by legislators.

There is no real time frame for the departure of Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti, D-Van Nuys, from his office, but informed sources indicate that Roberti will step down sometime later this month and turn the gavel over to Senator Bill Lockyer, D-Hayward. There is also speculation that Roberti will assume Lockyer's role as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee for his last year in the legislature. He anticipates authoring new legislation, rather than tending to the nuts and bolts of the Senate itself, shepherding legislation, and tending to the needs of legislators. Roberti is one of the first — and certainly the highest-level — legislator to be

affected by term limits. "Since this is my last year in the Senate, I want to spend it doing productive work," Roberti said.

Two new Republican Senators and one Republican Assemblymember took their seats Monday. Former Congressman Tom Campbell, R-Palo Alto, a Stanford law and economics professor, won his Senate seat in a special election, as did businessman and former Shasta County Supervisor, Maurice Johannessen of Redding. Johannessen was re-

cruited and supported by freshman senator and bi-cameral king-maker Rob Hurtt, R-Garden Grove. Johannessen's election surprised moderate Republicans who supported former Assemblymember Bev Hansen for the seat. The new Assemblymember is Bruce McPherson, R-Santa Cruz.

In a December 28 bitterly fought cliffhanger, Assemblymember Steve Peace, D-Chula Vista, beat right wing-backed former ambassador to Qatar, Joseph Ghoghassian, for the 40th District senate seat. ▼

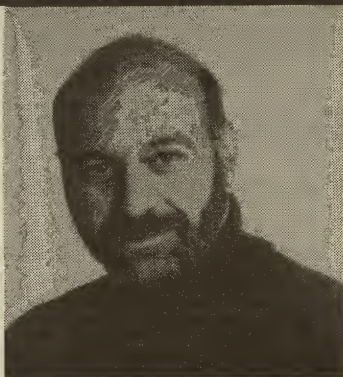
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# Boy Scouts' Banned 67-Year-Old Leader Speaks Out

by Dan Woog

The Boy Scouts of America are once again playing with fire — and once again, in a case that has drawn national attention, they're getting burned.

The recent firing of a 67-year-old administrator from Connecticut's Quinnipiac Council of the scouts has incensed state legislators, New Haven aldermen, other Scout leaders — even Scouts themselves — since the man's crime was simply that he is gay. He has never been accused of molestation or any other crime: virtually his entire scouting life has been spent in administrative work with adult volunteers, none of whom have complained about

him.

The administrator (who, fearing harassment, asked to be known simply as "Scott") has received nothing but praise for his Boy Scout service, beginning as a 12-year-old New Jersey boy in 1938. He rose all the way to Eagle Scout, and as soon as he graduated from Rutgers University he returned to his old troop as an adviser with the brand-new Explorer program.

Although certified as a social studies teacher, he became a professional Boy Scout administrator instead because, he says simply, "I loved the program." As an executive on then-rural Long Island he was in charge of public relations, program administration, fundraising and ev-

erything else; he routinely worked 80-hour weeks. After five years he moved on to perform similar work in a wealthy suburban New Jersey district; when he left he was told by "a real tough boss" that he was the best executive the district had ever had.

At 32, Scott married a woman who had two daughters; they soon had another girl and, very reluctantly, he left professional scouting for a more lucrative field: encyclopedia and textbook sales. He was out of Boy Scouts for nearly three decades until, seven years ago, he and his wife were divorced and he got back into scouting as a volunteer. Once again he worked with adults out of the district office because, he says, "that's where all my expertise and experience were, and where I could be of the greatest help." As he eased into retirement he looked forward to increasing his Boy Scout activities.

By that time Scott knew he was gay — although he hadn't come to the realization until he was 50. "That's a bit unusual, but true," he says. "The subject just didn't exist in the 1930s and '40s. I had been married, and my wife and I had good sexual relations."

In fact, as an administrator Scott had dismissed several staffers for sexual misconduct. "If you touched a kid, boom — you were gone. That's it," he says. "I strongly enforced that. I didn't ask if you were gay, straight, bisexual, or whatever; it didn't matter. You were gone." Dismissed district leaders were put on a national blacklist, prohibiting work anywhere. "It was a good system, and it worked," he notes.

But in 1978 the Boy Scouts had changed the policy that existed since 1910, three years after their founding. Suddenly the simple admission of being gay — not necessarily misconduct, or even consensual activity — was grounds for dismissal. The change was made "rather furtively," Scott says, who knew nothing of it.

"The country was veering rightward, and so were the Scouts," he says. "It's sad. The Scouts have a youth protection course that's mandatory for everyone. There's a video and booklet. They teach that most molestation of boys is done by heterosexual men, and they talk about myths of gay men, showing they're usually not child molesters or effeminate. But then they turn around and have a policy of kicking out anyone who's gay. It just doesn't make sense."

It certainly didn't make sense to Scott when he was dismissed. He had kept his private life quiet (although his wife had outed him to their church and children during their divorce); he had remained quiet when district leaders spouted homophobic remarks; and, just as before, he had received nothing but praise for his Scout work.

When BSA officials showed up at his home and told him he was being terminated he was "thunderstruck, heartbroken, and in shock." The charge, they said, was "being homosexual." His "im-

agery and convictions," they explained, were "not in compliance with the Boy Scouts of America."

When he asked what he'd done to tarnish the Scouts' image, one official said, "I can't tell you. A number of people know you're homosexual; it's public knowledge." Scott is able to laugh at a bit of that conversation — "For one thing, they always say 'homosexual'; they can't say the word gay. And they didn't have to spend four weeks investigating me; they could have just asked" — but the trauma remains real. The Boy Scouts were Scott's life.

Scott is considering an appeal, but is not optimistic. As a private organization, the Boy Scouts of America do not have to allow him due process or the chance to confront his accusers.

## Outpouring of support

Nonetheless, he has been buoyed by a sudden and steady outpouring of support — some of it from surprising quarters.

The first man to stand up for him was a man taking part in the dismissal meeting at Scott's house. "He left in the middle. He shook my hand, and said he was with me. He put himself at risk by doing that," Scott notes.

When he called key district people to tell them what had happened, they reacted with disbelief. "They were shocked, surprised, compassionate and sensitive," he recalls. "You could hear their jaws drop over the phone. Obviously, my being gay was not 'public knowledge.'" Many wrote letters backing him.

The minister of Scott's 1,200-member Congregational church was furious. He told Scott the church would drop its sponsorship of a Cub Scout pack and troop, to which Scott responded, "No! You can't do that. They're my friends! They're supporting me." But the minister told him he'd let the deacons know what was happening, and why. "Now everyone in church knows — and they're on my side," Scott says.

A New Haven alderman-elect, Stefan Pryor, volunteered his assistance. He'd never met Scott but has acted as his surrogate, handling phone calls and rallying six

aldermen against the United Way of Greater New Haven, which provides \$70,000 a year — about eight percent of the council's \$870,000 annual budget. Several state legislators, none of whom knew him, also wrote the organization.

An Explorer adviser called, after discussing the incident with her post. They were outraged, she said, and wanted to know how they could help. "High school boys — and they're the most macho of all," Scott marvels.

A 13-year-old Boy Scout appeared — in uniform — on television. His message was that no one should be kicked out just for being gay. "Talk about guts!" Scott says with wonderment.

Even the CBS Evening News taped an interview. Scott didn't show his face, but felt the questions were fair. He sat down that night "terrified" to watch it; it never aired, and he experienced a combination of relief and disappointment.

As the storm roils across Connecticut — as his case continues to make headlines, and his sexuality becomes more and more of an open secret — Scott is, he says, "embarrassed. I just wanted to work internally. There was no need for all this to happen."

He could be forgiven bitterness toward the Boy Scouts of America — but he harbors none.

"I still don't know what I've done to tarnish the good name of the Boy Scouts," he says. "In fact, from everything I know and have heard, it's been just the opposite: I've helped the Scouts immensely. But this isn't me against the Boy Scouts. I'm not mad at them."

"I'm mad at individual leaders, sure, and at the policy that was changed furtively in 1978, but that doesn't diminish my fervor for what they're doing. I believe passionately in the program, and I still do. The Boy Scouts are still the best program in America. We need more, not less. The kids need them desperately."

In fact, Scott believes so firmly in the Boy Scouts that he's kept a \$10,000 bequest in his will. He also donates \$200 to their annual drive. "I give every year," he says proudly. "And when they ask again this year, I'll give again." ▼

Hey, who needs Kathleen Brown? A Wilson-Garamendi gubernatorial battle might be more fun. In Los Angeles last week, John Garamendi attacked Wilson's "leadership" on crime, saying the governor "couldn't lead a Boy Scout troop home from a weenie roast." The next day, Wilson struck back.

"Cute," the guy snapped. "For someone who has spent as many years in the Legislature as he [Garamendi] did, I will exercise a little clemency if in fact he can get off his duff and persuade some of his colleagues — his friends in the Legislature, if he has any — to however belatedly support the kinds of changes that he is now espousing."

And how was your day? ▼



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## Friday

(Continued from page 9)

isolation, however, is still pending, and AIDS coverage may not end up in the package that eventually becomes law.

• As for appointments, Bill Clinton has definitely placed more gays and lesbians in government jobs than any previous president, but still has a ways to go on that score. If I were "scoring" President Bill Clinton on issues that most effect our community, I would say he has done well (but still not good enough) on the AIDS crisis, flunked the gays-in-the-military issue, and has done fair on gay and lesbian appointments.



# AIDS: The Year in Review

by Michael C. Botkin

**T**he sudden profusion of dead Christmas trees littering the sidewalks signals the end of another year and inspires AIDS activists, like others, to evaluate the past 12 months and consider our progress. Like those trees, which only a few weeks ago glittered with promises of prosperity and happiness and now are considered worthless garbage, 1993 began with rosy hopes for AIDS research and ended with mediocrity at best and bitter disappointment at worst.

There have, of course, been the inevitable deaths. In the past few months, Jesse Dobson and Andy Zysman,

## Commentary

founders of ACT UP Golden Gate, have died; Michael Callen, one of the longest surviving PWAs, joined them, just last week. Few movements are plagued by so high an attrition rate.

A more alarming death, if possible, was the long-predicted demise of the "San Francisco Model" of HIV care. A number of factors led to its final decline — more competition for federal AIDS dollars (in particular the Ryan White money), less state dollars despite rising caseloads, etc. — but the fate of Shanti House perhaps best exemplifies the problem.

Shanti House is a large residential hotel funded by Ryan White money to provide low-income housing for HIVers. When it opened last year, the prospective tenants were practically tap dancing with glee over the Market Street residence. But when Shanti flunked its city audit, that project (and many others) were stripped from the organization and awarded to other bidders — in this case to Catholic Charities.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: giving the Catholic Church control over a predominantly gay HIVer population is like turning over a Jewish hospice to the management of the Nazi Party. Catholic Charities already operates one HIVer residence, the Peter Klaver House, which has been plagued by persistent charges of staff homophobia and a nasty TB epidemic that killed off about a third of its residents.

However, Catholic Charities won't run Shanti House directly; they'll farm it out to the firm of heavy-handed slum managers they have running their other residential operations. But they will shift its mission toward hospice-like care and away from providing independent living situations, thus converting Shanti House from a place for HIVers to live into a place for them to die. And already they've started to crack down aggressively on even discreet pot smoking by the residents (many of whom suffer from life-threatening wasting syndrome). Winner: the Vatican. Losers: Shanti, the HIVer residents, and San Francisco.

Overall, the feeding frenzy over the breakup of the Shanti combine is benefiting the hard-core AIDS profiteers and seasoned contract winners, like the AIDS Health

Project, at the expense of the grassroots organizations that provide top-notch services but aren't as good at milking the system, like AIDS Benefits Counselors. The notion of the community-based and client-oriented "San Francisco model" is now essentially moribund: Rest in Peace.

## Not a good sign

AIDS research ain't quite dead, but it sure isn't real perky. The year saw failed promises, mediocre performances on the rare occasions when therapies were successful, and a few spectacular flops bursting the bubbles of some much-hyped treatments. For example, HIV vaccines, both therapeutic and preventive, started the year looking good but ended under a cloud as negative research rolled in casting doubts on the theories on which they're based.

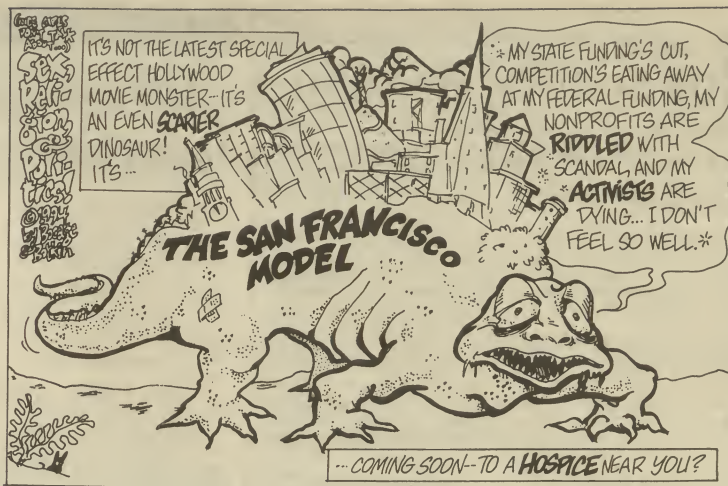
In a little noted development, ddC, the second most popular nucleoside analog ("nuke") anti-viral after AZT, failed to win monotherapy approval from the FDA. Hoffman-LaRoche's research on the number two nuke was so cheesy that even some activists advised against giving it the official okay.

Therefore, ddC can only be used legally (technically) in combination with AZT, a use that was only validated by data from Hoffman's bitter rival, Burroughs-Wellcome (the AZT billionaires). Since the drug is easily available, such quibbles have little real impact, but it's not a good sign about the future of the drug development and approval processes.

Rifabutin, a much-touted and heavily-promoted preventive treatment for MAC, turned out to be prohibitively expensive, marginally effective, and extremely toxic. I have to acknowledge a certain bias here, since that drug nearly killed me when a few days on it almost blew up my liver, but I suspect that this is more common than is generally recognized.

Neverapine, the new wonder drug and candidate for three-way combination with AZT and ddC (which, you'll recall, you're not supposed to use by itself), flopped miserably. It was later revealed that the optimistic data about it released at the international conference in Berlin was based on a lab error. A new class of non-nucleoside analog anti-virals which began the year with high hopes also bombed; it turned out that HIV, so vulnerable to the compounds in the test tube, mutated into a drug-resistant strain within a few weeks of being put into a real, live PWA.

There were some modest successes. d4T, a second-generation nuke, is widely available (although it's not yet officially FDA approved) and appears to be the best anti-viral to date; at least it seems to have saved my lean butt for another year. Also Biaxin, the best treatment for MAC (and an extremely expensive one), was just approved, and hopefully, this means that insurers will stop balking about paying for it. Neither of these drugs count as breakthroughs, and the trajectory suggested by mainstream drug research in 1993 isn't a heartening one.



## Cheap and easy

It hasn't been much of a year for activism or "alternative treatments," either. Project Inform imploded earlier this year when its entire paid staff resigned, citing mismanagement by founder Martin Delaney and a growing tendency of the organization away from its grassroots in order to pursue back-room deals with the major pharmaceutical corporations. The group has been largely quiescent since then, rarely publishing its "quarterly" newsletter; nor have any of its projects recently born fruit.

Remember Compound Q, announced by Delaney as the "cure" a few years ago? You haven't heard much about it lately because Project Inform, like my mother, believes that

if you don't have anything nice to say you shouldn't say anything. Q still has its advocates, but 1993, like the previous two years, failed to produce any supportive data.

Other alternative treatments benefited from a resurgence of interest generated by the obvious flop of so many official drugs, but frankly none of them did any better when it comes to documentable benefits. Kemron, or oral interferon, was definitively exposed as a worthless nostrum hyped by a single, obviously faked study. DNCB, a topical application of chemicals used in photo processing that produces an allergic skin reaction (and supposedly stimulates the immune system), is enjoying a revival after a few years of relative obscurity, but this is more a tribute to

the failure of traditional therapies than it is to any new data supporting its effectiveness.

HIVers have recently started using turmeric extract as a food supplement, based on research reporting its anti-HIV properties in the test tube. But there's no hard evidence that it does anything in real, live humans, and it typifies the "it's cheap and it has no side effects so why not try it?" approach increasingly favored by many HIVers. It doesn't cost much and it won't blow up your liver, which is more than can be said for most of its mainstream competition.

Overall, the second decade of AIDS so far doesn't look like much of an improvement over the first. It was a good year for AIDS, and a bad year for HIVers. ▼

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## Health & Community

**ACT UP Golden Gate Meetings** are Tuesdays, 7pm. 584B Castro. Discuss treatment issues, possible actions and recommendations. 252-9200.

**ACT UP SF** Meets every Thursday at 7:30pm, in the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., 3rd Fl. 621-0291.

**AIDS, Medicine & Miracles** Call for proposals for 1994 workshops and seminars at the next annual holistic healing workshop to be held June 2-5 in NYC. Deadline is Feb 1. AM&M, P.O. Box 9130, Maxwell Bldg., Boulder, CO. 80301-9130.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** Gay & lesbian support group meets Wednesdays, 8-9:30pm, at MCC, Room 104, 150 Eureka St. All are welcome.

**Alexander Hamilton Post 448** Lesbian & gay veterans in the American Legion meet the third Thursday of each month. 7pm. Room 202, War Memorial Veterans Building, 401 Van Ness. 431-1413.

**Alternative Alcohol Problem Fellowship** Tuesdays, 8-9:30pm. 398-6594.

**Anger & Conflict in Relationships** Eight week course in anger, aggression, and how to overcome relationship problems. Tuesday eves, 6:30pm, starting Jan. 18, Everett Middle School, 450 Church. 585-5150.

**Bay Area Young Positives** HIV support group for young people of color. Weekly meetings, activities. Every Wednesday, 7pm. 25 Van Ness, 5th Fl. 487-1616.

**Billy DeFrank Community Center** Winter schedule of classes at San Jose's gay & lesbian community center; women's defense, gays in the Holocaust, film and writing courses. Call: (408) 293-AGAY.

**Candide Auditions** Peninsula Center Stage in Redwood City seeks men and women for roles in the Leonard Bernstein musical comedy. 363-8594.

**Dignity SF** Eucharist every Sun., 5:30pm. Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Ave. 681-2491.

**Diversity Job Fair** 55 Bay Area employers will recruit. Fill their ranks with lesbians, gays and bis. Jan. 11, 10am-2pm & 4pm-7pm. Free. San Mateo Expo Center, 2495 S. Delaware St., San Mateo. 345-0753.

**Free HIV Testing** Blow Buddies and AIDS Health Project test free, plus counseling and education. Jan. 21, 10pm-12:30am, 933 Harrison (upstairs from Blow Buddies).

**Freshstart Quit Smoking** 6-8pm, Tuesdays & Thursdays at St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center, 450 Stanyan. \$24.50. 394-7100.

**Gay Men Connecting With Spirit** Workshop for gay/bi men using storytelling to explore spirituality. Jan. 14-16. Venture Lodge, Pescadero. \$185. (415) 334-6550.

**GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders)** Meetings, potlucks, friendship groups. 626-7000.

**Gay Youth Awareness Training** FOCYS, of Peninsula Family YMCA, offers training for educators on gay youth issues. 349-7969.

**HIV+ Support & Education Programs** Different groups for gay men, women, public education forums, couples, family & friends support group, and socials. All groups meet 6:30-8pm, Mondays & Tuesdays. 235 W. MacArthur Blvd., Room 530. 596-6337.

**Kairos Support for Caregivers** Workshop on preparing for the later stages of care. Jan. 29. \$35. 861-0877.

**Lambda Literary Awards** Nominations now being accepted. For ballots and info, call (202) 462-7924.

**Lambda Youth Group** Support group for les/bi/gay & questioning youth up to age 23. Confidential. Weekly meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. (510) 887-0566.

**National Center for Lesbian Rights** Offers support for a variety of problems and issues, including aversion therapies that psych hospitals and others use to try to "convert" gays. 1663 Mission St. 621-0674.

**Pacing Ourselves** 8-week support group for health care professionals, Tuesday eves. Kairos Support for Caregivers. 861-0877.

**P-FLAG** Film showing of *Because This Is About Love: A Portrait of Gay & Lesbian Marriage*. 2-4pm. Jan. 9. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church at Market. 921-8850.

**SF Network for Battered Lesbians & Bisexual Women** Support group starting in January. 281-0276.

**Sex, Religion & Politics** Rainbow fellowship holds seminars for gays, lesbians and bisexuals about these charged topics. Jan. 11 & 20, and 25, at 7:30pm. First Congregational Church, Bradford Chapel, Post & Mason sts. 392-7461.

**Spectrum** Support groups for queer youth, men, women, seniors and more. Weekly meetings. Also meetings for gay, lesbian, and bi adults. 457-1115.

**Unitarian Universalists** Les/bi/gay transgender & straight allies meet the last Sunday of each month at Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church, 12-1pm after 10:30am service. (510) 228-0323.

**Whiptail Lizard Lounge** Alternative dyke space that's smoke and alcohol-free. Open Saturdays & Sundays. 4035 18th St. For events, call 267-6979.

## National News

# Beantown Bigots: If We Can't Have Discrimination, We Don't Want a Parade

United Press International

**BOSTON** — Veterans who sponsor Boston's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade have said they will cancel the event next year unless they can overturn a court order allowing lesbians and gays to march.

The South Boston Allied War Veterans Council is appealing a permanent injunction that bars it from excluding homosexuals from the March parade.

Council President John Hurley said if that appeal fails, the council will pull out of the parade it has sponsored for 47 years.

The Suffolk County Superior Court earlier this month issued a permanent injunction preventing the sponsors from keeping the Irish-American Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Group out of the parade.

The veterans said that ruling amounted to "prior restraint censorship" of the veterans' constitutional right to free speech. They have appealed that ruling to the state

Supreme Court.

"We take this action regretably but necessarily to send the clear message that we believe our First Amendment rights are at issue," Hurley said in a statement published Tuesday, December 28, in the *Boston Herald*.

"The traditional family values which have been the hallmark of our community and parade are worth fighting for," Hurley said.

He said the veterans would rather cancel the parade than "suffer the continued embarrassment and humiliation of having a group calling itself GLIB flaunt its unwelcome message."

Hurley said the council's decision denies the homosexual group "the opportunity to use our forum to mock [the parade's] values."

GLIB said it will continue to insist that it be included in the parade, which it called a public event.

Boston Mayor Thomas Menino appealed to the veter-

ans to reconsider their position, and said he would "work hard to see that the parade continues as a successful event for many years to come."

GLIB marched under temporary court order and heavy police protection in 1992 and 1993. The December 15 ruling by Judge Harold Flannery made the injunction against the parade sponsors permanent and allows the gay group to take part without restrictions.

GLIB attorney Elsie Kappler said there was a full and fair hearing "and the laws squarely support" the gay and lesbian marchers.

GLIB argued that the streets along the parade route are areas of "public accommodation" where discrimination is prohibited.

Earlier this year, the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination fined the veterans council for discriminating against the homosexual marchers and ordered it to stop. ▼

## Classifieds

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 181485

The following person is doing business as CAFE MONDA, 2032 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109; FRANK F. MONDA, 1411 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed FRANK F. MONDA.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 7, 1993.

December 16, 23, 30 January 6, 1993. L-181485

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 181829

The following person is doing business as MODERN FOLK, 511 Alvarado St., San Francisco, CA 94114; JAMES MATTHEW HAYWOOD, 511 Alvarado St., San Francisco, CA 94114; KATHLEEN MARIE GIERARD, 110 Alma St., #4, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date December 17, 1993. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed JAMES HAYWOOD.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 17, 1993.

December 23, 30 January 6, 13, 1993. L-181829

#### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 956851

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ROBERT BRADFORD BAUER for change of name. The application of ROBERT BRADFORD BAUER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ROBERT BRADFORD BAUER has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to SKY EVERGREEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 14th day of March, 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 16th day of December, 1993.

December 30, January 6, 13, 20, 1994. L-956851

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#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 181721

The following person is doing business as SEMI SERVICES, 1450 Sutter #111, San Francisco, CA 94109; DAVID B. MCGUIRE, 1450 Sutter #111, San Francisco, CA 94109.

Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date December 14, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID B. MCGUIRE.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 14, 1993.

December 23, 30 January 6, 13, 1993. L-181721

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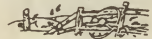
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Artifice and Schmaltz, or, the Other Side of Divinity

# Francs for the Memories

by Robert Julian

After a 10-year absence from the stage, Bette Midler blew into town last week with three new Harlettes, four bare-breasted models, and an entourage of musicians who comprised the support staff of her auspiciously titled show, "Experience the Divine." Midler's fortysomething, predominantly heterosexual audience, seemingly inexperienced with the *modus operandi* of divinity, couldn't have been more pleased. But those of us who have seen every Midler tour since that first one in 1972, must now accept the fact that a decade in Hollywood has turned the queen of camp into the sultana of schmaltz.

Midler opened with a rap parody, "I Look Good," which took the concept of vain repetition a bit too literally. But the lady was right, she looked great. So did Civic Auditorium. Midler enclosed the open stage with a proscenium masked by blackout curtains. She also suspended crescent

moons and balloon clouds from the ceiling of the auditorium and employed a set of colorful scrims to reflect the burlesque motif she exploited for the rest of her Disney-meets-Heidi Fleiss evening.

## Flipper Factor

Mincing back and forth across the stage, the blond Midler skewered San Francisco and local politics ("Once you had a mantra, now you have Matrix"), before going

**The schmaltz factor soared into the stratosphere.**

on to Burt and Loni, Cher, and the usual suspects. Her observations are still trenchant, but time and age have mellowed Midler's tone. She resurrected the Delores Del Lago character and those wheelchair mermaids for a disco medley that included

"Call Me," "MacArthur Park," and "The Greatest Love of All." In a wonderfully appropriate update of this classic routine, Midler gave Delores an 800 number to market her own "12-stroke program" and a new video "Ballin' to the Oldies" (it's a pun, but you had to be there). Flippers flying, Delores and the mermaids finished with an eight wheelchair chorus line of "New York, New York."

Midler's seemingly endless stream of Sophie jokes simply left me Tuckered out. Where the brash young Bette had once delivered these old chestnuts with a refreshing in-your-groin gutsiness, the 47-year-old diva is now skirting perilously close to becoming the very performer she once parodied. Musically, Midler remains a polished professional, still capable of galvanizing a house packed to the rafters with 5,000 fans. People do not head for the restroom in midballad, nor do they seem annoyed by how grandiose Midler's hand gestures have become. In good voice, she sang

(Continued on page 40)



The Divine Miss M.

Maupin Scores With British Film of 'Tales of the City'

## Tall Tales

by Alan Frutkin

Picture this: a hot, dark haired man enters the steam room of a San Francisco bathhouse, circa 1976. In a blue lit mist, he walks through a bevy of well-groomed, chiseled men. The echoing silence is filled with lust. He peers in the open door of a private room, enters, and shuts the door behind him. No, this is not a Jeff Stryker film. This is a scene from Great Britain's remarkable, made-for-TV adaptation of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

Jointly presented by San Francisco's KQED and the acclaimed PBS production unit American Playhouse (*Longtime Companion*, *The Lost Language of Cranes*), the six hour adaptation of *Tales* will premiere on Channel 9 over three consecutive nights

Cynda Williams, Chloe Webb, Marcus D'Amico and Paul Gross in *Tales of the City*.

— each in two hour segments — Monday through Wednesday, January 10, 11, and 12, at 9 p.m.

*Tales* stars Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis as Anna Madrigal, the quintessential bohemian landlady of San Francisco's 28 Barbary Lane, who — for all those unfamiliar with

Maupin's original stories — has a past shrouded in secrecy. And, for the sake of those who don't know what that secret is, I have vowed not to reveal it.

Of course, that means if you are unfamiliar with the story, it's important that you videotape the program because only on second viewing

will you see the enormous emotional range Dukakis brings to this role — from her posture, to facial expressions, to a simple wave of the hand, Dukakis conveys multiple layers of meanings. And only on close viewing will you walk away from the series knowing that Dukakis has turned in another award-winning performance; one beautifully etched in nuance. And that is a rarity on television.

The screenplay for *Tales* is faithfully adapted by former thirtysomething lead writer and producer Richard Kramer (who, by the way, is openly gay). It's based entirely on the first volume of Maupin's six-volume series, and follows the lives of Mrs. Madrigal's Russian Hill tenants during San Francisco's magical '70's. Chloe Webb (*Sid & Nancy*) heads up the supporting cast in a riotously funny performance as Barbary Lane tenant Mona Ramsey. Next to Dukakis, Webb steals most of the film's scenes. When the two actresses are on screen together, it is an absolute pleasure to watch.

Marcus D'Amico plays Michael Tolliver, Mona's perpetually lovelorn roommate, and Maupin's self-professed doppelganger, with all the qualities of a lost puppy dog. Laura Linney is the film's bright eyed, Cleveland-born



Olympia Dukakis plays the mysterious Anna Madrigal.

protagonist, Mary Anne Singleton. And Bill Campbell (*The Rocketeer*) is thoroughly convincing as gay gynecologist Jon Fielding (the hot, dark hair from the baths previously mentioned). The film also boasts an array of cameo appearances by such notables as Karen Black, Rod Steiger,

(Continued on page 41)



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## OutThere

### The Annals of Queerdom

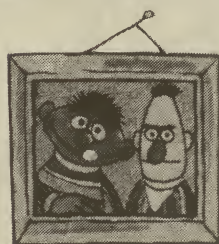
by Orland Outland

The recent lawsuit by a former *Tower Records* security guard has opened a large kettle of fish. The guard charges that he was fired after refusing to bug a gay manager's office so the chain could prove the manager was "arranging personal homosexual liaisons on company time and telephones." (As opposed to impersonal homosexual liaisons?) Naturally, more news about this is coming out. Sources say that the gay manager ran the video store, but that he was hired by management who assumed he was straight. When they found out he was gay, they declared that they were consolidating the record and video store under one (new) manager, pulling the oldest trick in the book when it comes to getting rid of an unwanted employee: eliminating the position.

It is unfortunate that *Tower* played Wal-Mart to *Rainbow Records'* (relatively) mom and pop operation on Castro, driving it out of business — especially since that store went out of its way to hire a gay manager and be involved in the neighborhood. *Tower's* contribution to the neighborhood, from which it has profited mightily, has consisted of sponsoring a personal (and profitable) appearance by Boy George.

Are you a current or former *Tower* employee with a story to tell? I would like to hear from you. Please call my voice mail at 995-2342; your confidentiality is assured.

Far be it for me to criticize other people's recreational habits (let he who is without sin throw the first 12-step medal). However, it does seem that you can't leave the house in the morning these days without running into at least one beautiful young man with glittering eyes, who wouldn't normally give you the time of day, staring at you with that wild-eyed look that says, "Poke me! Poke me again! Wait, come back, poke me some more!" But the end of crystal meth's resurgent popularity may be at hand. Word is that *Beverly Hills 90210* is about to initiate a story line in which little *Brian Austin Green* becomes a meth monster. And as we all know, if the kids on *90210* are doing it, it's terminally, hopelessly old, over, and just plain too unfashionable for any of our local grooveoisie to be caught doing it.

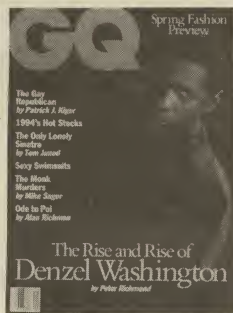


Bert and Ernie: Pansies of puppetry?

Today's Episode Is Brought to You by the Letter

Q: Are Bert and Ernie gay lovers? Children's Television Workshop denies it: "Bert and Ernie do not portray a gay couple, and there are no plans for them to do so in the future. They are puppets, not humans." Oh, puppets don't have sex? What about *Punch and Judy*? *Kermit and Miss Piggy*? This lends a whole new meaning to the phrase "hand in glove."

Once upon a time, about ten years ago, *GQ* deliberately distanced itself from its core audience of gay fashion followers. Years passed without a peep on homosexuality, never mind AIDS, and each month featured a gratuitous pair of exposed female breasts in each fashion layout to defuse any potential homo-



*GQ* features the "G" word on its January cover. Welcome to the '90s!

eroticism that might arise from pictures of two or more gorgeous men in swimsuits posing together. While the fashion layouts still work that way, things have been changing slowly at the mag — there was a recent article on how "queerdom" has invaded het America, but the cover still referred to the article as "The Queenening of America," an essentially meaningless title that wouldn't scare off the hetero readership.



*Beverly Hills* "teens" cut loose on the beach.

But the January issue has finally done it: there it is, the G word, in all its glory, on the cover. And it's an interesting article about *Rich Tafel*, a prominent young gay Republican, who certainly defies my idea of a neohomocon — *Tafel* dated a *Queer Nation* leader for a year and a half, and doesn't avoid the gay "subculture" the way most conservative gays do. *Tafel* does bitch about the gay press, which he



A fag and his flag: Gay Republican pin-up boy *Rich Tafel* waves Old Glory.

describes as "the ghetto echo chamber." *Tafel* says, "I am concerned about *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* — those quotes are very important." Excusez-moi, but if the self-satisfied, narrow-minded *WSJ* isn't an echo chamber, I don't know what is. And need I mention the insidious *Rush Limbaugh*, whose callers are only allowed to say one thing: "Ditto, Rushie!" Another note — the only gay writer who ever gets mentioned in recent mainstream books and articles is the *Village Voice's* *Donna Minkowitz*. To be noticed, is it necessary to be a) a homosexual Stalinist writing the most outrageously radical prose possible, b) in a heterosexual paper, c) published in the back yard of the often lazy Manhattocentric national magazine press? Looks that way from this coast, doesn't it?



Writer *Donna Minkowitz*: "I'll take Manhattan."

I Used To Be Disgusted, But Now ... well, I'm still disgusted. The newest rage in "Innocent AIDS Victim" wear is the super-exclusive pediatric AIDS ribbon, which consists of a red ribbon with a little gold teddy bear attached. No doubt the originators of this new and improved edition of the ribbon will tell us that it's to remind us that children get AIDS, too. But what it says is, "I feel sorry for children with AIDS, but not for homosexuals or anybody else who got it on their own." It's bad enough that AIDS resources are being diminished; now even AIDS compassion is being granted on a restricted basis. ▼

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# Hopeful Signs

## Is There A New Attitude Toward Lesbians And Gays In Chinese-Language Cinema?

by Daniel Mangin

**R**ecent gay-themed films from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong mark significant milestones in the cinematic dialogue within various Chinese cultures about same-sex love. In the cases of China and Taiwan, there is cause for hope, while works produced for the Hong Kong market are more problematic.

The high-profile *Farewell My Concubine*, which has been proclaimed as the first mainland Chinese film with a gay story line (my vote goes to 1990's *The Twin Bracelets*), may well open the doors to a greater acceptance of gay topics in Chinese cinema. The film about a male Peking Opera star who falls in love with a fellow actor was banned at one point for its supposedly homosexual content (and earlier for its political perspectives), but when the government made a cosmetic change that hardly undercut the sexuality, the film went on to wide success in China. Clearly, the central plot about a man obsessed with another man did not deter too many people.

The Taiwan government itself was an investor in the current art-house hit *The Wedding Banquet*, in which a gay Chinese man maneu-

ing into didacticism, but he deserves credit for visualizing new ways of relating to same-sex love while not belittling long-held beliefs. (Though one judge during the voting for Taiwan's Oscars, the 1993 Golden Horse Awards, did find the film an affront to traditional values. The woman demanded it be withdrawn from consideration because, she said, "Using movies to express homosexual feeling is not right. ... I worry about losing family values and that it will lead to broken families and the spread of AIDS." Her fellow judges overruled her, holding that her opinions about homosexuality weren't relevant to assessing the film's artistic merits. *The Wedding Banquet* won five awards, including best picture.)

*The Outsiders* (also known as *The Outcasts*), a 1986 melodrama that was the first gay film licensed by the Taiwan government, accomplished a similar goal. A 50ish Taipei queen who takes it upon himself to rescue abandoned gay teens has, by film's end, helped build a viable, if still tentative, community.

Running counter to the trend *The Wedding Banquet* and *The Outsiders* are part of is the decidedly retro *The Silent Thrush* (1992), about a traveling opera company. The lesbian stereotyping and blatant misogyny at the heart of the film only make one hope it is an aberration.

The suicide is an obvious commentary on her orientation — something that simply can't survive. Gay suicides occur in *Farewell My Concubine* and *The Twin Bracelets* as well, but with the first there is at the very least a dramatic logic to the outcome and in the case of the second, the character may be acting as much out of defiance as shame.

'All's Well' — Or Is It?

*Silent Thrush* has more of the trashy feel one expects of Hong Kong flicks, which in the last few years have included a range of characters, mostly in the hybrid action/comedy/sex genre popular on the island and elsewhere in Asia.

The creators of the 1992



Liu Hsiao Hui and Chen Te Jung in a scene from *The Twin Bracelets*.

Hong Kong sex farce *All's Well That Ends Well*, which stars *Farewell's* Leslie Cheung, pull off a clever sleight of hand, turning a "not-gay" character straight. It's an odd twist on the muting of the gay overtones that Beijing bureaucrats attempted after *Farewell* premiered in China. Cheung, apparently unconcerned about any connections people might make between his role and Asian tabloid rumors about his private life, stars in *All's Well*

as a mincing, flower-arranging gay.

Well, not quite. His character has a "cover," a fiancée who is off the island the first 7/8ths of the film, but few audience members anywhere in the Chinese-speaking world would fail to read his character as homosexual. (He's called the Cantonese equivalent of "sissy" — translated as "bitch" on subtitled prints — by his nemesis, a *tres* butch gal who also has a convenient, faraway lover.)

Although Cheung's character is likable enough and is not ostracized by his family, much of the humor comes at the expense of his never labeled but always crystal-clear sexuality. His fiancée returns just in time to fall in love with the husband-to-be of the gruff dyke, leaving the two "gay" characters free to marry each other — and turn straight. All's well that ends well, indeed.

In *The Gigolo and the Whore II* (1991), a stylish lesbian businesswoman — who keeps referring to herself as a "tomboy" — miraculously turns heterosexual via the torrid kiss (on the dance floor of a lesbian bar) of a male pursuer. Her parents later come upon her in bed. Her father declares with glee that now he'll have a grandchild because she's changed from "crooked to straight." Suicide might be more painless.

'Cruising' Meets 'La Cage'

The alternately offensive and appealing *Pantyhose Heroes* (1990) is a weird combination of *Cruising* and *La Cage Aux Folles* in which two HK policemen head to the bars to solve a murder. Its good points include the (very slow) coming around of one of the cops to a position of compassion for, if not understanding of, the gays he has encountered.

On the downside: some rotten AIDS jokes and the equation of male homosexuality and "acting like a woman." When the men get their assignment, they are immedi-

(Continued on page 51)

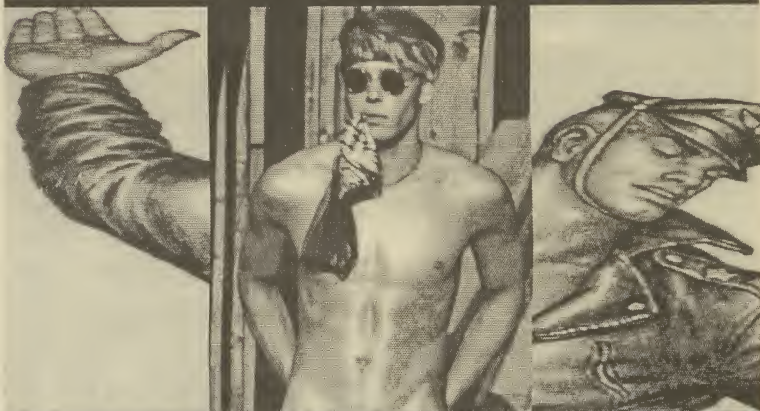
**The Taiwan government itself was an investor in the current art-house hit *The Wedding Banquet*.**

vers around time-honored expectations of male children. One of *Banquet's* most noteworthy achievements is the narrative space it creates for the gay man's parents to confront and move past conventional attitudes. Its maker, Ang Lee, has received criticism, perhaps justly, for laps-



Zhang Fengyi and Leslie Cheung in Chen Kaige's *Farewell My Concubine*.

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## Drag Show Documentary 'The Queen' Is Back Long-Lost Artifact

by Daniel Mangin

Frank Simon's *The Queen*, one of gay film's long-lost artifacts emerged last year from oblivion. The drag show documentary again became a marketable commodity with the success of Jennie Livingston's *Paris Is Burning* and the gender-bending vogue that continues to sweep Western culture.

Simon's portrait of the 1967 Miss All-America Pageant isn't splashy (it's downright low-tech), but it is intriguing. As a documentary technique, the cinema verite style was at its peak when this film was made, and Simon was more or less a purist. He basically turns his cameras on and photographs whatever happens. No pushy interviewers, no voiceover narration, and no "experts" to contextualize events.

Simon does edit more than some of his contemporaries (notably Shirley Clarke, whose *Portrait of Jason*, also about a New York drag queen, was made the same year) and he apparently "sets up" some of the testimony to the camera, but his basic approach is to record things as they occur. Luckily for Simon, left to their own devices, drag queens almost always make good copy.

*The Queen* is divided into two parts, the before-show preparations and the actual event, which was presided over by the likes of Andy

Warhol, Terry Southern, and George Plimpton (though the judges appear little in the film).

### Revelatory Gems

Despite the fact that their deviation from the norm is the film's *raison d'être*, one doesn't get the feeling that Simon's subjects are being presented as "specimens" a rare approach for films about homosexuals of that era. CBS's documentary *The Homosexuals* (1967) and the BBC/NET *Homosexuality in Men and Women* (1966), both filmed in more traditional documentary styles, treated lesbians and gays as curiosities and engaged in conscious and unconscious editorializing and moralizing. *The Queen* takes its queens as they are.

Predictably bitchy humor (and some great shots of the queens eyeing each other as competition), fashion tips (how to hide that beard, how to achieve believable cleavage), and rehearsals for the show are punctuated by some revelatory gems about gay life before Stonewall.

One has to listen and watch carefully, but there are clues that families did accept their gay youth before Phil and Oprah told them they had to, that gay folk of different races got along without condescending to each other (though the accusations of one of the losers are evidence that all wasn't perfect), and that people had a clear concept of what they wanted out of life

long before a high-profile political agenda (or even a low-profile one) had taken shape.

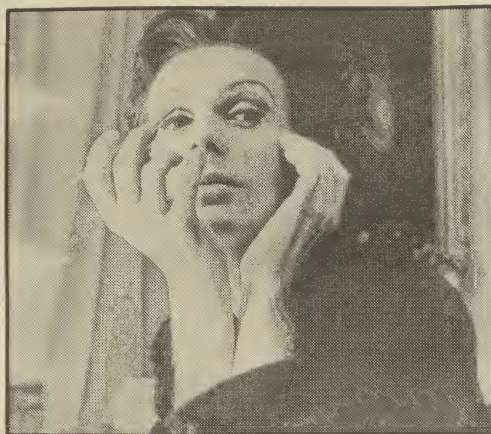
Several "characters" engage interest almost immediately: the enigmatic Harlow; pudgy but resolute Miss Boston; and the show's promoter, Jack "Sabrina" Doroshow, whose stage persona (and even his offstage one) is that of a "bar mitzvah mother." Crystal, who went on to found the House of Labelija immortalized in

**Luckily for Simon, left to their own devices, drag queens almost always make good copy.**

*Paris Is Burning*, fires up the end of the film with her tirade over finishing second.

### Cinema Artifact

Although Simon deserves credit for his matter-of-fact presentation and willingness to let the queens speak for themselves, his film, memorable as it is, is as much a cinema artifact as it is a histori-



Flawless Sabrina (Jack Doroshow) didn't wait for Phil or Oprah to tell her it's okay to play with make-up.

cal one. As early as the late-1960s, documentarians had begun to discover the limitations of the verite methodology, that there's a treacherously thin line between shooting life "as is" and merely being a sloppy filmmaker.

In *The Queen*, we only learn as much about the contestants as they happen to reveal during the course of events, and since there are no follow-up questions (except occasionally by other participants), interesting threads are dropped before being fully explored. The overall effect is like that of a snapshot: you get an idea of what life for gay transvestites was like in the 1960s, but you know there's much more behind the

images before you.

Time lends the events recorded here more significance, especially considering the dearth of documentary material—non-judgemental or other—on homosexuals from the period.

Shortcomings aside, *The Queen* is an essential document, another bit of our past reclaimed. It's a reminder that far from cowering in our closets, some of us dressed up and did the town well before our liberation was "announced" in the summer of '69. ▼

**The Queen**  
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## Theatre



Definitely bigger than a bread box, the 4 Big Girls: Deb Parks-Satterfield, Heather Clark, Charity Harding, and Carolyn King.

## Bigger, Better, Best

by Mara Math

A troupe of four fat African-American lesbians from Seattle, Four Big Girls explore the intersections of fat-hating with racism, misogyny and homophobia. Stopping onstage last week at Theatre Rhino in housecoats and slippers, the classic image of fat and lazy, the group reveled in stereotypes, occasionally reinforcing them—the focus on food was rather overdone—but more often reclaiming them. "We don't want to spoon feed audiences," said director/actor Deb Parks-Satterfield. Charity Harding

added, "I'm being educational just by being onstage. I have extra meat on my bones, and I still love myself."

The funniest number in the Girls' *Bigger Than a Breadbox* show was "I-900-Eat-a-Lot." I bet it sent half the audience directly to the grocery store when the performance was over. Not only did the food porn arouse appetites, as it were, but we'd also been given a direct moral imperative to unleash our desires. When one character complains, "I'm sick of living on Diet Coke, cigarettes and Slim Fast," the retort is quick: "That ain't livin', sister. That

(Continued on next page)



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## Theatre

### Gays in the Military: New Play Rekindles Debate

## 'Box 27': War and Queers

by Noreen C. Barnes

Since the Clinton Administration unveiled its controversial "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy last year, the subject of gays in the military has received almost non-stop attention from the national news media.

Now with cases pending before courts of law, news items have become less frequent. For media-makers, it's yesterday's news. But others are working hard to keep the story in public view. Writers and artists, locally and elsewhere, have been producing biographies, art works and stage plays that address this topic. Locally, two plays about gays and lesbians in the military are scheduled to open in early '94, Michael Norman Mann's *Box 27*, which opens next week at the New Conservatory Theatre, and Lee Jenkins' *A Credit to Her Country*, a co-production between Tale Spinners and Theatre Rhinoceros, which premieres in March.

Mann's play is about a father and son struggling with the gay military issue, while Jenkins' work is based on the oral histories of a number of women who served in the military since World War II. Though different, the plays represent ways in which the stories of gays and lesbians can continue to be told — and retold — through theatre.

In a recent interview with B.A.R., Mann described how *Box 27* began several years ago as a story about a father and son coming to terms with the son's homosexuality. At that time, the playwright's decision to make his characters military personnel was merely contextual. He simply wanted a setting for his char-

**At first, the playwright's decision to make his characters military personnel was merely contextual.**

acters that "would create the most theatricality." Only later, after the military issue exploded in the news, did he get the full implications of his decision. Somehow, Mann had anticipated the enormity of the issue as it began to spread through the media, and the work suddenly shifted a bit to accommodate the front page news.

#### Writer's Crystal Ball

In an attempt to tailor the political climate to reflect current events as accurately as possible, Mann says "references were incorporated into the dialogue," but without a sense of "reporting" the issue. He put the finishing touches on the script "when Clinton announced the compromise and made everyone mad." Though not surprised by the president's statement, Mann admits to some relief that "my story was still valid." Oddly, this was not the first instance of Mann's prescience, as previous to *Box 27* Mann had written a play about date rape that opened the same week the story garnered the attention of several national news magazines. "I either have great foresight, or I'm extremely lucky," says Mann.

While the military issue is central to *Box 27*, playwright Mann says the play is really about, "three men who happen to be servicemen, hammering out their relationships." (The title refers to the section of the form that military re-enlistees were required — until 1988 — to fill out that asked, "Are you a homosexual?") The story concerns Stephen, who wants to extend his Marine tour of duty, but is in conflict with his older lover, Master Sergeant Howard, about whether or not he should



Brian Woods and Steven Rhyne in *Box 27*.

come out while re-enlisting. To complicate matters, Howard is an old friend of Stephen's father, a Marine colonel who is so conservative he still can't accept African Americans in the military.

The action of the play takes place during an all-night card game in the back room of a restaurant, Maggie Drawers, which refers to the flag flown when a firing-range target is missed. Three other officers and Maggie complete the cast of characters.

Mann's play is produced by Joseph Isaac De Alejandro, who is also its dramaturge. He provided much of the historical information (official procedures and terminology) that lend authenticity to the play. De Alejandro observes how critical it is not only to

"dramatize the issue," central to *Box 27*, but also to see how "the play complements what's going on in the news." For him, the issue of coming out is "a matter of integrity."

*Box 27* is directed by Judith Dresch, who studied with Stanislavski at the Moscow Art Studio, LA's Group Theatre, and with Margaret Webster at UC Berkeley. She founded the Manhattan Playhouse in 1963, and is a teacher, acting coach and director. ▼

**Editor's Note:** *Box 27* runs Wednesday-Saturday, January 5-23, at 8 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m., at the New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness Avenue. For information and ticket reservations, call 861-8972.

(Continued from previous page)

ain't livin'!"

In several sketches Four Big Girls delineate the fatuous worship that is the obverse of racism. "Oooo," crows a hippie with an anachronistic Valley Girl accent, "I think it would be, like, so far out for a big black woman to lead the Take Back the Night march, big and black and fertile like the Earth herself!" As a big-breasted fat Jewish dyke with a history of skinny lovers who want me to have their emotions for them, I could identify.

"We are all Oprah," the sisters of Oprah acolytes intone in another scene, explaining that America only has room for one successful fat black woman. Another conjunction of racism and fatphobia is found at auditions, where fat black actresses are informed that they can play Juliet's nurse in this updated version — as a Hattie McDaniel clone — but never, ever Juliet.

The troupe also takes on the dreaded "HWP" of personal ads in the queer community. Height/weight proportionate means nothing about health, capability or sexiness; it's merely a code for No Fat Chicks. When Carolyn King rolls her hips and says, "You ain't gettin' none of this!" you've no doubt that her fatphobe respondent is missing out on a good thing.

A few pieces don't work. The hilarious "Frankenfood" sketch was marred by the cruel, if funny, portrayal of a hunchback. Together with the group's defensiveness about ableism when questioned in the post-show discussion, a need for a director outside

FBG seemed to be indicated.

The one notable failure, a piece on stomach stapling, is incoherent and confusing. Without any explanation of the serious medical dangers of this procedure, "Staples" ends with the victim dead on the floor, surrounded by potato chip bags and a bottle of Prozac. Huh?

All in all, though, Four Big Girls are big fun, and they received a standing ovation to prove it.

#### Sexiest Woman Alive

Anyone who missed Four Big Girls and who still has any doubt that "HWP" is completely unrelated to sexiness should see another Big Girl next time she comes to town. From the moment the venerable Etta James, funk/rock/blues queen extraordinaire, got her 300-plus pounds on stage New Year's Eve at the Great American Music Hall and shucked off her shoes, she was the center of the universe and the sexiest woman alive. With a powerful voice that can atomize an audience ("Damn Your Eyes"), mourn eloquently ("A Lover Is Forever"), or seduce ("Come to Mama"), this is a woman who offers her breasts and thrusts her butt not because it's in her contract but because she wants to. With a lascivious tongue poking out between her lips, Etta strokes and caresses herself with sly humor during the raunchier songs ("You Can Leave Your Hat On"), all the while moving mountains with her voice. Michael Jackson and his crotch-grabbing look like Elmer Fudd waiting to pee next to Etta's opening-the-labia-to-receive-you mime.

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## Profile

# Interview With Countertenor Brian Asawa Rising Superstar

by Paul Thomason

There is no doubt that countertenor Brian Asawa is on his way to international stardom. Last summer he made his Santa Fe Opera debut as Arsamene in Handel's *Xerxes* and *The New York Times* raved, "Few countertenors produce a timbre as beautiful, as fully supported or as consistently well-projected as Mr. Asawa's, and his portrayal was as dramatically sensitive as it was firmly sung."

Then it was off to Amsterdam for his European debut as Orfeo in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*. Again the critics cheered. "The American countertenor Brian Asawa sings Orfeo phenomenally; he has a completely natural and unforced high voice with a rich expression that reaches perfection in the ornamentation. Asawa combines, in a very exceptional manner, a true masculine timbre with a soprano's flexibility," said one Dutch critic. Another described Asawa's voice as "powerful, warm and everything but sterile in sound" adding "even compared to other opera performances, the ovations at the end were ecstatic."

### On To the Met

Fortunately for Bay Area residents, before taking off to New York in a couple of weeks for a Lincoln Center recital, and his Metropolitan Opera debut (in Britten's *Death in Venice*), Asawa and pianist Bryndon Hassman will perform a recital tomorrow (Friday) night at San Francisco State University to benefit the High School of the Arts.

Though the 27-year-old San Francisco resident di-

vides his time between opera and recital, he prefers opera because it is a group effort. "With a solo recital you're put under a magnifying glass," he said. "There are no costumes, no sets, just you and the piano. It takes more vocal control to sing a recital. You have to portray many different emotions and characters at a more rapid rate than in an operatic role. It's still a bit intimidating to me," he added with a laugh.

Asawa refuses to take the easy route in his recitals by programming only music of the Renaissance and Baroque periods. "In this program I've included music by Faure, Schubert, and Ned Rorem to show there's more to the countertenor than just Baroque repertoire. Those songs were written for any voice type to sing, why not allow countertenors to sing them? Now, I'm not going to do a big dramatic Strauss song, because that just wouldn't fit my voice. But I think it's important the recital audience realize the countertenor voice can be appropriate to many genres of music."

"A countertenor is a male singer who sings in his falsetto voice," Asawa explained. "The countertenor voice isn't a false voice, it just utilizes a different part of the voice folds than a tenor, baritone or bass voice. An untrained falsetto sounds like an artificial voice, but a fully developed falsetto can sound operatic and very pleasing to the ear."

"I find it a lot of fun, actually, to sing in the treble register, but if I didn't have a substantial sound there I wouldn't keep pursuing it. I think there are a lot of countertenors who shouldn't be

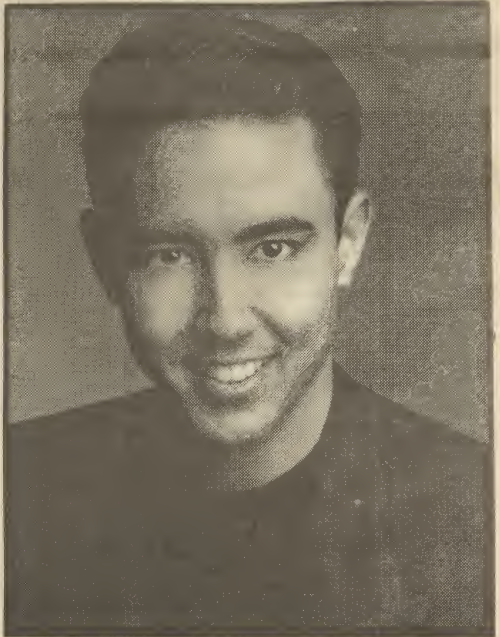
singing as countertenors. If you listen to their core sound, there's hardly anything there."

A former Adler Fellow with the San Francisco Opera's Merola Program, Asawa was last heard at the San Francisco Opera at the end of the 1992 season when he had a huge success as Oberon in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Only a few days ago he signed with Phillips Records to record that role in 1995 with Sir Colin Davis. His *Tytania* will be Sylvia McNair, with whom he sang in San Francisco.

### Emotionally Taxing

With upcoming appearances in Los Angeles, at the Glimmerglass Opera, a return to the Netherlands Opera, and dates already confirmed into 1996 with major opera companies like Brussels Opera, Cologne Opera and the Berlin State Opera, Asawa finds the most difficult part of an international career to be the constant travel. "I wasn't prepared for how physically and emotionally taxing all the travel is. It's an enormous undertaking and, in my case, having a lover as well, and having to say goodbye, hello, a thousand times, it's very difficult. And it really tests the relationship."

"I don't think being gay affects my being a singer too much," he added. "It might influence me in terms of being more comfortable on stage in a flamboyant part, or one where a more sensitive side of the character has to be examined. Also there are songs like Schubert's 'Ganymed' which deals with Ganymed flying up to Zeus, the All-Lov-



Brian Asawa

ing Father, where the relationship could be thought of as homoerotic.

"I think it's sad when actors or singers limit themselves to roles that they feel will not be threatening to their masculinity. You're just taking on a part, you're not making an announcement about yourself as a person." ▼

*Editor's note: The recital to benefit the High School of the Arts will be Friday, January 7 at 8 p.m. at Knuth Hall, Creative Arts Building, San Francisco State University, Holloway Avenue at Arclano, near 19th Avenue. \$10 for students, \$20 general admission. For more information call 334-4330.*

## Joe Ellis

Jan. 18, 1943 - Dec. 29, 1993

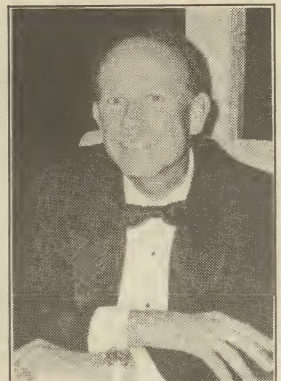
Joe died peacefully surrounded by loving friends on December 29, 1993. Joe was born in Florida and moved to California in 1970. He relocated to San Francisco in 1976 and, with several other investors, purchased Trinity Place in 1978. Joe knew nothing about the restaurant business, but given his warm personality, he was able to surround himself with an excellent staff. In a short time, Trinity Place became a trendy lunch and late afternoon cabaret and watering hole, an oasis in the Financial District where the gay and lesbian community could gather and meet friends in a fashionable, safe environment. Joe Ellis provided a showcase for many a great diva, and he was awarded the Cabaret Gold Award more than one time.

Joe facilitated many fundraising efforts at Trinity Place, and some of the dignitaries that visited were Senator Ted Kennedy, members of the Joffrey Ballet, Mayor Dianne Feinstein, and local and state politicians. Other San Francisco personalities were often seen dining or watching cabaret at Trinity Place. Due to a demolition clause in the lease, Trinity Place was forced to close its doors in April of 1983.

After Trinity Place, Joe's other accomplishments included "132 Bush Street," a lunch restaurant and cabaret in the tradition of Trinity Place. He also managed The Woods Resort at the Russian River and, back in San Francisco, The Comstock, a private gay club. In each of these ventures, Joe's generosity and sense of style touched many people's lives. Joe retired in 1991.

The highlight of Joe's "retirement" was "The Divas Remember Trinity Place" held August 4, 1993, at the Great American Music Hall. The sold-out event raised over \$10,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Joe was joined at the reunion by some of the most popular San Francisco cabaret artists and dear friends he made during his career.

Joe is survived by his mother and stepfather, Vivian and James Kight, no siblings but many, many living friends. Many thanks to Dr. Thomas Schiller and his staff for his loving care. Plans for a memorial are still pending. Joe requested donations be made to the AIDS Foundation in lieu of flowers, and a short prayer or a tall vodka tonic. ▼



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# Kiko Govantes Unveils Solo Exhibit Vivid Terrain

by Roberto Friedman

With "Figurate," his solo exhibition now at Terrain Gallery, Enrique "Kiko" Govantes proves himself a master of both image and language in his paintings. The words in his paintings and drawings have the same urban energy, the calligraphic quality — the inspired scrawl — of graffiti. "I can't read graffiti, but I'm fascinated by it," Kiko admits. This feeling for the energy of the streets, wedded to a classical education and a lifetime spent around fine art, yields a vibrant and beautiful body of work.

Loosely translated, the idiomatic expression "Figurate" means "Can you believe it!" or "Imagine that!" Literally "Figure it out for yourself," the phrase implies an appeal for empathy, a trading of positions or perspectives. These new paintings and works on paper are clearly a response to the here and now: we are encouraged to put ourselves in the artist's shoes, as he tries on ours.

"A lot of the pieces are about what I've seen," Kiko told me, and I can fill in the unspoken phrase "since AIDS." It's understood between us. "So much of our lives as gay men has been condensed so greatly that it's changed the nature of our ability to explore. It is like a war right now, and you don't know when the Nazis are going to come knocking at the door and take someone else away."

## Uninhibited

His answer is to celebrate the immediate and the heroic in our nature. *Our Future*, for example, incorporates an all-over field of writing painted over get-well cards, messages sent by children when Govantes' lover was sick with AIDS. The words in the painting include *vida*, *I hear you*, *ayudanos*, *cuantas veces*,

*love now, again, it will work.*

They are voices of compassion and wisdom, profound for their innocence.

In his work, Kiko embraces the unforced, the instinctive, images you might see in children's or so-called "outsider" art. He paints with both right and left hands because "I like the less-trained look." In the current exhibition, this aesthetic is best sampled in a series of small paintings composed on the inside of stretcher bars, an artist's tool for stretching canvas. Govantes poured plaster of Paris between the bars to create the picture surfaces, then carved images into the plaster. Better to say the images grew of themselves, in a sort of automatic writing. Finally, the artist painted the variegated surface in acrylics, then oils. The best of the finished products, such as *Beauty and the Beast*, seem poised to express the ineffable.

If the work is deliberately free, it is no less savvy of art history. The most striking large work in the show, *Ventana*, divides a canvas into black and white fields. The black is vivified by painterly brushwork; a message is scrawled on the white, behind a found window: "You might get what you see." The painting nods to art pioneers Rauschenberg, Johns, and Twombly, but presents its own set of idiosyncratic symbols. Kiko's signature stick figures bask in the black moonlight. The central part of these figures, as always, takes the shape of a cup. To Kiko, man's ability to cup his hands, and thus transport water, bespeaks the start of civilization.

## Serious Streak

Govantes' formal education stressed the classics and theology. His early work of ten took for its subject the Book of Genesis, which the artist calls "a misused book,



*Beauty and the Beast*, 1993, by Kiko Govantes.

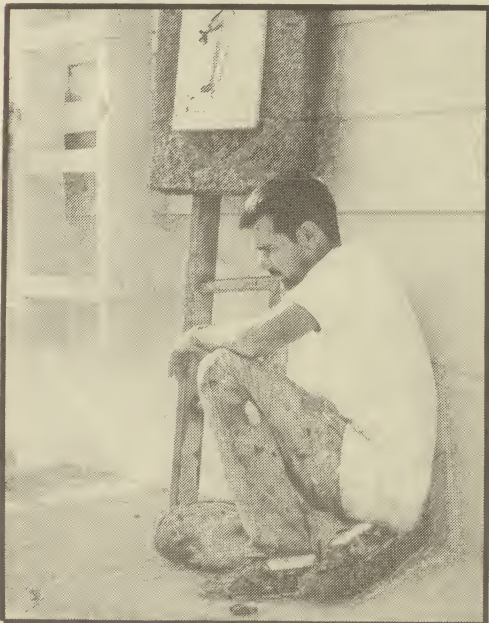
but a wonderful tale." In the current show, one new painting, *Genesis Chapter One*, continues this exploration. The Adam and Eve figures are separated by a column of sketches, free drawings of figures with captions like "Shy Romantic," or "Lawyer catching bus." The painting's narrative voice explains, "They were from different worlds and bumped into each other in the garden."

The show at Terrain is rounded out by a splendid

collection of sketches from the artist's travel notebooks. Some drawings, like *Oasis*, are done on souvenir scraps — in this case, a brochure from the Stedelijk Museum. The travel drawings are intimate vignettes, portraits of small moments in time, evoking memories like "the whores lined up along the canal in Amsterdam" for the artist and those among us who have been to that amazing city. The sketches share the larger works' lightness of touch and

vibrant, colorful figuration.

Originally scheduled to come down at the end of the year, the showing of "Figurate" has been extended until Saturday, January 8. Kiko Govantes' art is informed by his heritage as a Cuban-American, his experiences as a gay artist living in San Francisco, and his developing sensibility, gifted by a strong pictorial sense. Terrain Gallery can be found on the second floor of 165 Jessie Street. Call 543-0656 for more details. ▼



Kiko Govantes

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## Midler

(Continued from page 33)

oldies like "Hello in There," "Delta Dawn," "The Rose," "Do You Wanna Dance," and "Wind Beneath My Wings," providing only one unexpected excursion: a jazz rendition of "Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most." Midler still understands these songs, but the old passion is gone; armed with great technique, artifice has begun its deadly assault on her art.

## Time Goes By

The difference between the early Divine and this Midler of the latter-day saints was highlighted by her rendition of "Stay With Me." In the old days, this was her slash-and-burn number. After taking the audience on an emotional roller-coaster ride of desperation and thwarted affection, Midler would finish the number wringing wet and lying face down at the foot of the stage. She now offers a cabaret interpretation which she delivers in a diaphanous evening gown and flawless makeup, complemented by a clump of what the old Midler would call "turd curls" — portable ringlets tacked to the back of her perfectly coiffed head.

But the schmaltz factor soared into the stratosphere with "From a Distance." This song, which middle-America clutched to its bosom during Operation Desert Storm, marked the symbolic transition of Midler from gay icon to mainstream chanteuse. On opening night, after delivering the lyric "God is watching you from a distance," Midler circled the

stage with arms aloft and head tilted up into the flyspace, rolling her eyes heavenward in search of some sort of divine concurrence. Can an all-singing, all-dancing remake of *Song of Bernadette* be far behind?

All this earnestness belies the other side of Midler — the shrewd businesswoman who, on her last European tour demanded (and got) payment in gold bullion because she

**Artifice has begun its deadly assault on Midler's art.**

feared her profit might be eroded by fluctuations in the international money market. She is also the woman who just raked in \$11 million for a 30-day engagement at Radio City Music Hall and who doubled ticket prices for her New Year's Eve benefit performance at Civic Auditorium. New Year's shows are always more expensive, but with a 200 percent markup, only \$500 tickets (500 of them) went to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. All revenue from the other 4,500 double-priced tickets went to Midler, pushing her gross for this three-day engagement to somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million.

## Star Turn

Midler is not just a singer anymore, she is a movie star; and she made the transition during her 10-year absence from live performing. The

early Midler tours were exciting because of her creative energy and that of her hip audiences, but the apex of those concert years was the 1983 "Art or Bust" tour. At that point her film career was in shambles; she fired her manager and took to the road, recreating her act for the last time in a startlingly original and amazingly energetic fashion. Those days are gone forever.

Bette Midler has passed into the pantheon of show business legends to assume her place with the Streisands, Garlands, and Sinatras. Midler knows this; she understands her position and even parodies it in her act, referring to herself as "the great Jewish entertainer." She's rich, she's married, she's a mother, she's pushing 50. It will never again be necessary for her to pour her heart and soul into anything because she will be carried comfortably into old age by her reputation, charisma, and an ever-growing and easily replicated repertoire of shtick and schmaltz. Midler has become an entertainment *personality*, and for personalities as large as hers, this sort of progression is inevitable. Her live performances can only head south — probably to Vegas.

Midler's career pattern is already beginning to parallel that of Bob Hope's, a show business icon mercilessly parodied in Midler's movie musical, *For the Boys*. Hope started in vaudeville and moved to film by way of radio; Midler started in cabaret and moved to film by way of a recording career. Both performers sang and told jokes in the music hall tradition while

accumulating a vast popular following. But Midler began in New York's Continental Baths and gay men gave her that first boost toward stardom. This is something she has not forgotten, but a performer must move on — and the sad truth is that many of her initial fans are no longer with us. For those who remain, there will always be a strong emotional connection to Midler. Hope endured the wars, but Midler began in the baths and survived AIDS. That not only makes her a one-of-a-kind artist, but the living repository of cultural memory for a rapidly vanishing generation.

Midler has endured, and she will no doubt go on to fulfill her destiny as archetypal

performer. I'm sure there are those who will offer a standing ovation every time that wind gets beneath her wings, just as the generation before them always rose to the occasion for Hope's "Thanks for the Memories." As for me, I surrender Bette Midler in concert to the suburban Disneyites who now comprise her primary following. The sad process of letting go is somewhat relieved by the knowledge that I experienced the Divine when she really was. I wish her the best. But with the passage of time, I have come to appreciate the wisdom of the late Simone Signoret, who succinctly observed in the title of her autobiography that "nostalgia isn't what it used to be." ▼

## Midler: The Movie Star

**M**idler's up-and-down film career has earned the star two Oscar nominations, but, so far, no gold. (No, Golden Globes do not count.) If you want more of the Divine, hie thee down to ye old video store and check out the following:

## The Rose (1979)

★ ★

A flawed film, but Midler got an Oscar nomination on her first try. Loosely based on the life of Janis Joplin, this film works because of the music and Midler's performance. Worth seeing.

## Divine Madness (1980)

★

A Midler-in-concert film which suffers from reduction to the screen. A nice bit of history that somehow never quite comes together.

## Jinxed! (1982)

★

A disaster from start to finish. Midler plays a Vegas lounge singer in this black comedy, remarkable only because she ended up having a nervous breakdown after filming it. On the first day of shooting, co-star Ken Wahl walked up to Midler and announced, "I don't like niggers and I don't like faggots." It was all downhill from there.

## Down and Out in Beverly Hills (1986)

★ ★ ★

Midler's comeback film. Paul Mazursky directed this remake of a French comedy, with Midler assaying the role of a Beverly Hills housewife whose family has a close encounter with a bum played by Nick Nolte. Disney made a three-picture deal with Midler and, after this one, never looked back. Great cameo by the queen of rock and roll, Little Richard.

## Ruthless People (1986)

★ ★ ★ ★

If you only rent one Midler film, make it this one. She's over the top in the most delightful way as a kidnap victim whose husband (Danny DeVito) refuses to ransom her. Simply hilarious.

## Outrageous Fortune (1987)

★ ★

The first half of this film is wildly funny. But this tale of two women (Midler and Shelley Long), searching for the boyfriend they unwittingly

shared, bogs down in stupidity at the midpoint.

## Big Business (1988)

★ ★ ★

Very funny pairing of Midler and Lily Tomlin as twins, separated at birth, who find each other in adulthood. Zany and delightful.

## Beaches (1988)

★

Oh, my. Sudsy melodrama, the kind Lana Turner used to churn out. Barbara Hershey, the kiss of death for any film, parades her collagen-injected lips across the screen as Midler's wealthy, dying childhood friend. This is the film that gave us "Wind Beneath My Wings," so you know where it's headed from the beginning.

## Stella (1989)

★

Pass the soap. Actually, this film deserves no stars. Midler remakes Barbara Stanwyck's *Stella Dallas*, generating lots of unintended laughter. A real dog, but Stephen Collins, as Midler's husband, looks pretty.

## Scenes From a Mall (1992)

★ ★ ★

Midler teams up with Woody Allen in a comic take-off on Bergman's *Scenes From a Marriage*. Most of the action takes place in LA's Beverly Center Mall. Caveat emptor: I liked the chemistry between Midler and Allen, who play battling suburban spouses, but virtually no one else did. The film bombed.

## For the Boys (1992)

★ ★ ★

Midler got her second Oscar nomination for this one, and the film almost works. There are some great musical numbers in this story of a love-hate relationship between two battling performers (Midler and James Caan). The soap factor torpedoed the story line, once again, and Midler ended up getting sued by Martha Raye who alleged Midler had ripped-off her life story. Worth seeing.

## Hocus Pocus (1993)

★

Unless you're ten years old, this is a dog. Rent it for your kids, or your neighbor's kids, then leave the room. Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Kathy Najimy play witches, Disney style. Midler and Najimy choke on the scenery while the audience snores. ▼

— Robert Julian

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## Tales

(Continued from page 33)

Ian McKellen and Maupin himself.

### British Feel

But what is most striking about the program is that for all of its inherent Americanness — San Francisco is still part of the Americas, although Mrs. Madrigal compares it to Atlantis — the series feels distinctly British. In fact, Maupin himself has compared *Tales* to the type of village comedy with which the British are enamored — a cast full of eccentrics whose paths continually cross.

Still, it is Mrs. Madrigal's secret, and the mysteries that surround her past, which are at the heart of *Tales*. And, as directed with Hitchcockian verve by the Scottish filmmaker Alastair Reid (*Traffic*), it is this suspense that imbues the film with an even more distinct British texture — that of the classic, PBS-style "whodunnit."

But seen from a solely gay perspective, *Tales* is groundbreaking television. The bathhouse encounter is only one in a series of breakthrough scenes retained in the final cut of this film. From the first sustained, passionate kiss between Michael and Jon Fielding — perhaps the first real kiss between two men ever seen on fictional television — to Mona's rekindled love affair with former *Vogue* model D'orothea Wilson (Cynda Williams), to Mrs. Madrigal's own story, the overt sexual imagery here reveals honest, loving, unapologetic portrayals of gay and lesbian lives.

### Universal Qualities

It is odd how Maupin's original story is rather tame by today's standards — at least in print — but the images brought to life on television are absolutely radical. Still, Maupin's original story is much broader than its gay subtext. There are straight characters, and there are gay characters, and regardless of sexual orientation each character provides the text with certain universal qualities.

Most often, that universality is embodied in the sad, lonely and often disillusioned lives these characters lead. But, at other times, the film also celebrates its players' youthful innocence. Early in the program, the wealthy Beauchamp Day, played like

a true villain by Thomas Gibson, whisks Mary Anne off on a tryst to a Marin hideaway. Over dinner, Mary Anne says to Beauchamp, "You think I'm naive." And Beauchamp

**Seen from a solely gay perspective, *Tales* is groundbreaking television.**

replies, "Yes, and that's you. Your innocence. I worship that, Mary Anne."

More important, the film also serves as a paean to the innocence of the entire era, an age before AIDS. As Michael prepares for a night out on the town, Mona cautions him to be careful, and Michael shrugs off her warnings with a wistful acknowledgment. "You don't know what's out there," says Mona. Michael responds happily, "That's the point."

But it's the unravelling mysteries of Maupin's original that propel the film forward. And that action hinges on Barbary Lane's own creepy "salesman," and suitor to Mary Anne, Norman Neal Williams — who, we find out, has a few secrets of his own. Played with appropriate grotesqueness by Stanley DeSantis, Norman is always shot in blunt angles, up close to the camera, the way villains were skewed in the old Batman TV series. Between Norman's snooping, and Mary Anne's own detective-work on Norman, there is plenty of suspense.

Like most narrative films there is also plenty of character development. For example, over the course of the film you see Mary Anne blossom from an introverted mid-western transplant, to a more confident, and even more worldly woman. But if there is a flaw to *Tales* it's simply that there are no real epiphanies that change a character's basic direction, and once the mysteries are solved, the story ends.

Many films today are cashing in on the current '70s revival. Planned or otherwise, *Tales* is no exception. From Mona's endless supply of bell bottoms to the film's great

soundtrack (including one of my favorite songs, "Who's That Lady?" by the Isley Brothers), to the Snoopy ceramics that grace the background, every frame of the film is convincingly authentic of the '70s. But given the daring sexual imagery of the production, the film's real success will be if in ten years, we can look back on these breakthrough images, and see them as tame as a smiley face button.

For all you die-hard Maupin fans, KQED will be hosting a special dinner viewing of Part three of *Tales* on Wednesday January 12, at the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens. Tickets range from \$75 to \$500, and proceeds from this event will support KQED and American Playhouse's Feature Film Production Fund. ▼



The 'Tales' clan.

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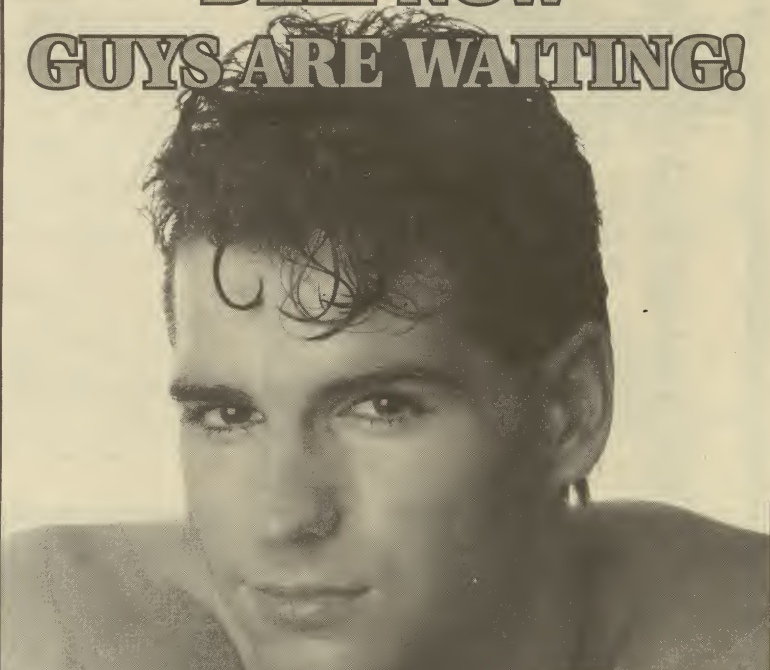
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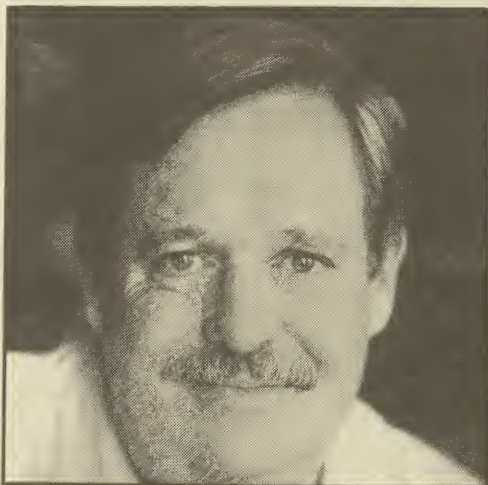
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*Tales of the City* creator Armistead Maupin.



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## BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

### Bodybuilding

## Arcadia Bodybuilding Society Is Here to Stay

by Dianne Aaronson

The Arcadia Bodybuilding Society is back in a new form, better than ever.

When I last wrote about Arcadia Bodybuilding Society (ABS), the organization was having some troubles. They were in the process of discussing whether or not to dissolve the organization. A general membership meeting had been called by the Board in the hopes that enough interest would be sparked among the membership that alternatives to actual dissolution could be found. Based on a previous history of low membership involvement, however, the Board was prepared for the worst and knew that a sparse attendance at this

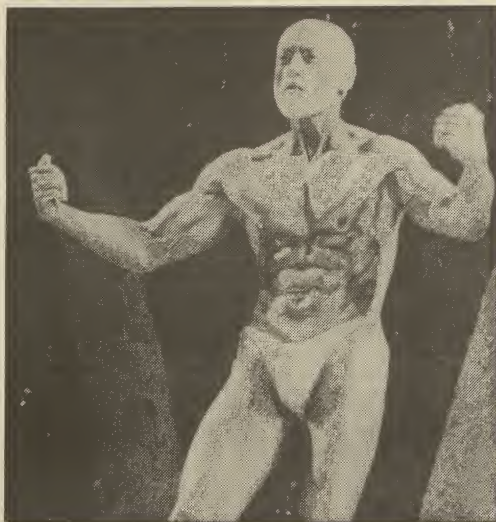
meeting would be the answer to the painful question of whether or not ABS would survive. Much to their surprise, a relieved Board found that there were indeed still members out there ready to bring new energy and enthusiasm into ABS.

Dedicated members attended three facilitated, in-depth brain-storming sessions, each of which lasted several hours, in order to look at what was wrong and what was right with the organization and make plans for the future.

They discovered that ABS did not have a solid identity and that they needed to be more things to more people. They examined intersections with their various "constituents" such as the public at large, ABS members, business alliances, and the ABS Board. It was realized that though primarily a bodybuilding organization, there was a need to address other areas of natural fitness training as well, and that rather than concentrating solely on the annual Physique contest, other areas which involved more people needed to be addressed. A need to provide social functions that allowed people to meet, support and learn was discovered as well. Also examined were failed relationships which in the past had helped keep the organization cohesive as well as the fact that often too much energy was spent for too little payback. As a result of these heart-felt discussions, many changes were made.

#### New Mission Statement

ABS wanted a new mission statement to reflect their new identity, which reads as follows: "The Arcadia Bodybuilding Society is a non-profit organization of men and women committed to the support, promotion, and educa-



Bill Wood poses at Physique '93. (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

tion of natural fitness training in the lesbian and gay community. ABS is committed to promoting natural fitness and cross-training in all sports with an emphasis on natural bodybuilding."

#### ABS and Team Biceps Merge

Team Biceps, a separate lesbian and gay bodybuilding organization, was originally founded by Michael Fiumara in 1990 as an educational, performing and service organization, raising money for Kairos House, Project Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund. Team Biceps and ABS have become one organization, working together under the non-profit status of ABS. They have created a synergistic organization wherein each will contribute the strengths of different but related expe-

riences and organizational assets.

#### Annual Physique Contest May Be Replaced

Though June 4, 1994 is still the tentative date for this year's physique contest, there is a possibility that it may be replaced by smaller, special event exhibitions to be decided at some future time.

In addition to providing a newsletter, seminars, workshops and special events, a strong attempt will be made to provide social events for ABS members and their friends. ABS will also endeavor to take a more active and careful role in communication within and outside the organization, and ask for written

(Continued on page 52)



Physique pose-down at Lowell High School.

(Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics)



## Sports Guide

### Basketball

San Francisco Slammers women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931.

Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2710.

### Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club — Noncompetitive cycling, men/women, road/mountain bikes. Rides each weekend, plus regular "Decide and Ride" each Sunday at 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. For schedule or newsletter, please call (415) 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, San Francisco, CA 94114.

### Boating

Barbary Coast Boating Club — gay boat owners and enthusiasts meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina. West to the end of University Ave., One Seawall Drive. (415) 905-6267.

### Bodybuilding

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

### Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

### Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and lesbians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 585-2365.



### Football

Women's Flag Football: Interested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

### Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club — Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline: 281-5666.

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

### Racquet and Paddle Sports

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — Abi 333-9618, or Carlos 626-7519.

Table Tennis Anyone? Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF. Call Allen Balderson, 626-1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

### Running

San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

### Scuba Diving

Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.

### Skiing

Saga North, lesbian and gay ski club. Call for more information (415) 995-2772.

### Soccer

San Francisco Spikes Men's Soccer. Practice Tuesdays, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248.

Women's Soccer. Call Golden Gate Women's Soccer League Chair Jan Mullen at 753-0946.

### Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of

14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. A winter schedule of pick-up games will begin on November 21, 1993 for eight Sundays. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510) 436-7959 for information.

### Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim Club — call Suzanne at 431-1933.

### Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994.

TSF supplies members with the latest information coming out of New York, travel & housing, registration packets for all sports, and a uniform for Opening & Closing Ceremonies, and funds to help you get there. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and monthly calendars. To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118.

### Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.

Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium. Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.

Gay Volleyball. Every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

### Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Practice Tuesdays evenings 7-9, Friday evenings 7-9, and Sundays 12:30-3 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women welcome. Call Gene at 821-2991, or Dave Wagner at 558-8412. Bay Area Wrestling Newsline at 227-5802.

*Note: your sports group can be listed here: Send Sports Guide the name of your group, a brief description, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person for the group. B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF CA 94103. ▼*

## Sports Briefs

### Emeryville Market Run

This January 8 run starts at 10 a.m., at the Powell Street exit off I-80. The cost of the race is \$12.00, or \$15.00 on race day. For more information contact Sky High, PO Box 20963, El Sobrante CA 94803; or call 510-223-5778.

### Sierra Club

Join Gay/Lesbian Sierrans for the Redwood Park Ramble, on Saturday, January 8. 5-6 mile hike in the East Bay Regional Park District's Redwood Park. Meet at the Rockridge Bart Station, in Oakland, at the bottom of the stairs, at 10 a.m. sharp. Rain may cancel. For more information call 281-5666.

### Women's Flag Football Tournament

The San Francisco Women's Flag Football League is holding a January 8 and 9 tournament fundraiser. Call 479-1131 for more information.

### GLS Women's Brunch in the East Bay

Saturday January 8, from 11 a.m. til 1:30 p.m. There's a brunch followed by an optional stroll at the Berkeley Marina. Bring a potluck dish to share. Call 281-5666 for more information.

### GLS Women's Sunday Afternoon Tea

On Sunday, January 9, there's a GLS San Francisco afternoon tea in the Marina from 4-6 p.m. Bring a snack or something to drink. Call 281-5666 for more information.

### Heavenly Ski Trip

Saga North, the Northern California gay and lesbian skiing club, is planning a ski trip to Heavenly, on January 8-9. For more information, call the Saga Hotline: (415) 995-2772.

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## Gay Games News

### Tom Waddell Award Deadline Extended

The Federation of Gay Games, the governing organization overseeing the various Gay Games around the world, announced that they have extended the Tom Waddell Award nominations deadline till April 1, 1994. The Tom Waddell Award is presented in memory of the charismatic Gay Games founder Tom Waddell, who died on July 11, 1987. The award is given to people exemplifying the spirit of the Gay Games.

"Nominees should be worthy people who have dedicated themselves to service in the arts, athletics, or volunteerism that captures the spirit of the Gay Games," announced the Federation.

The three finalists will be announced in New York City in early May at the premiere book signing and cocktail reception for ABC Sports correspondent Dick Schaap's upcoming biography of Tom Waddell. The book will be titled *Gay Olympian: The Biography of the Founder of the Gay Games, Dr. Tom Waddell*.

The Tom Waddell Award itself will be presented at the New York Games Closing Ceremonies on June 25, 1994. Nominations and requests for nomination forms can be sent to The Federation Awards Committee, 584 Castro Street Suite 343, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

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# Gay Games and Family Games

by Roxxie Rosen

My Cousin David got married in the summer of 1990. The entire family knew about it. They called us with the news in February, and we gladly marked the dates on our calendars: June 9, Davey's wedding. Davey, the funny cousin, the charmer, the one who'd always tell me "invisible alligators will come and eat you if you are bad," was married in my Aunt and Uncle's living room. Because he was the first one of any of us in years to dive head on into a committed relationship, we, the other single children of our generation, were in awe. Our family prepared all the usual things: the announcements, the parties, the photos. This was a relationship that was going public — we all knew about it, and the family was very proud.

That same summer, I, the ex-smoker, the nearing-thirty lesbian with a bad knee, was



all slouched into that arm-chair level of activity, that "Hey, let's watch some football on the boob tube," type of athletics, and "get me another beer, please." I was the first one in good enough shape as a thirty-year-old to compete in any kind of athletic tournament, anywhere.

I didn't tell my family I was even going.

## Dancing In

The 1990 Gay Games was the largest athletic event in the world. The only event close in size was the Goodwill Games, held in nearby Seattle, but more desirable in the media's eyes. Mainstream media attention or not, the world-wide lesbian and gay community newspapers and organizations spread Gay Games information, and approximately 8,000 people from all over the world attended the 1990 Gay Games. What an awesome feeling it was to walk into the opening ceremony. My soccer team actually danced in, using a last minute stab at a shimmy step. As we entered the enormous Vancouver stadium, I was laughing so hard about dancing, I could barely follow the right dance steps. I could never have followed any dance steps at the closing ceremony,



Oakland's 1990 Vancouver Gay Games consolation bracket winners, the Oakland Theres, crowding in a truck to pose for a team photo before the Vancouver competition began.

(Photo courtesy of the Oakland Theres Archives)

because I'd lasted through seven games of soccer in six days. In the sporting world of over-thirties, they should give us special medals simply for enduring, because the body gets grouchy as it matures, objecting to the great pounding and bashing that can happen in competitive soccer. You develop a new relationship with muscle soreness, because it can become a most constant companion. Many over-thirties, for this reason, stay in shape year-round, in season and out, because the price in pain of falling out of shape gets higher as you get older.

I don't think my family even knew it was happening.

On my way to the Games, my co-workers, in the semi-conservative bureaucracy where I worked, all wished me well. They even allowed me a special break to make a last minute pre-tournament trip to the giant sporting goods warehouse. I was surprised to hear them wishing me good luck at the "Gay Olympics" (some name changes simply don't stick in popular culture). None of their faces fell off because they said the word "gay." No lightning struck, either.

## Wish Lists

David, my cousin, told us all what types of presents he and his wife needed for their new lives together. Dutifully, we gave them what they asked for. This is what my wish list would have looked like, my wish list for the Gay Games: one camera and film, one twelve-pack of tall tube socks, two pairs of black running shorts, two Jogbras, aspirin, more aspirin, my parents wishing me luck and the standard "break a leg!"

But this wouldn't have happened in my family.



**The 1990  
Gay Games  
was the  
largest  
athletic  
event in the  
world.**

in good enough shape to compete in the soccer tournament at the Gay Games in Vancouver, B.C. Canada. Although my entire family is athletic to a degree, and there are some really good athletes, they've

her regular Sunday calls to me ceased for the next six weeks. Her calls resumed, surprisingly, on a Thursday, with an apology of sorts. We have, since then, become friends.

Jogging around a track at U.C. Berkeley, a week after the games, I told a straight woman soccer friend about my soccer team's adventures in Vancouver. My soccer team, the Oakland Theres (Oakland — there is a there there), had really turned around from an adverse beginning. Our first seeded game was against the team who went on to win the soccer gold medal, and we lost our first three games. That placed us in the Consolation Bracket, where we had a real romp. We came back from behind to win the next four games and ended up the champs of the consolation bracket. Our prize was a flag!

"Sounds like fun soccer," My straight friend said, "I wish I could have gone." I told her my team's not-so-secret secret: there was a woman on our team with a boyfriend. It wasn't a big deal to us. She was our teammate, and team bonding can run deeper than sexual preference. "Why not play with us



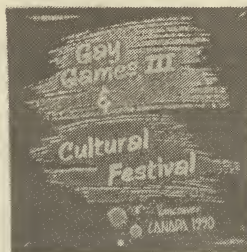
Three teammates gathering for a discussion prior to the 1990 Gay Games opening ceremonies.

(Photo: Oakland Theres Archives)

They'd tell me not to bring my girlfriends home, when I came home to visit. Then, they'd say things to me like, "didn't I want to have a family someday?" And, "All two women could do together is 'play house.'" My mother waited carefully for a most vulnerable moment to tell me how men and women perfectly, naturally, fit together. "Mother," I'd tell her back in almost a whisper, "I just don't feel that way about men."

Coming home from the Gay Games, 1990, I wrote my mother a letter on the plane. "Being a lesbian is a completely natural occurrence," I stated. "One out of every ten people is lesbian or gay. It isn't an act of perversity, or an illness. Stop trying to change me." I told her that she had to stop her lesbophobic comments or I'd stop visiting.

I don't know exactly how she reacted to my letter, but



in 1994?" I asked her, "They can't drug test you for sexual preference, you know. Who would know?"

She responded, "It wouldn't be fair."

I countered, "Yes it would. Imagine if there were thirty thousand athletes who would compete in a sporting event called the 'Gay Games,' even if they weren't gay or lesbian, but they didn't mind being associated with lesbians or gays."

Is that what it would take for *Sports Illustrated* to notice? ▼



# An Interview with America Online's Gay and Lesbian Forum Manager 'Quirk' Cyberspace...With a QUIRK

by Kate Bornstein

When I first came out into the lesbian and gay subculture of Philadelphia eight years ago, I was given this advice: If you want to meet people, find some club or organization or activist group that does what you like to do; join it, and you'll meet lots of people. Well, I did, and it worked. But it took a long time to find these groups; not to mention scheduling my time to fit into their meetings. Nowadays, there's another way to meet folks — via computer.

In addition to the sex bulletin boards available to us queer folk, there are now several large commercial bulletin boards vying for our business: CompuServe, Prodigy, Genie, and America Online are four of the largest. I've been exploring these online services, and I've found myself a nice, comfortable, queer home on America Online.

I arranged recently to "meet" online with Quirk, the manager of the gay and lesbian forum of America Online to find out more about it. "Quirk" is a screen-name, sort of like the old CB handles from the 70s. My own screen name on America Online is OutlawGal. We conducted our virtual conversation live online. I typed my questions. Quirk typed answers. This is the way "conversation" looks online.

Howdy ;D

QUIRK: Howdy Outlaw! ;D

OutlawGal: :: bursting into the room: : Howdy!!!!

QUIRK OutlawGal: :Out of breath:

OutlawGal: Make you some coffee? Tea?

QUIRK: Coffee would be great! (:) ::handing over mug::

OutlawGal: :Taking mug, pouring coffee. (:)... ::handing mug back::

Quirk: :Thankyew m'dear ::tipping hat::

I find it amusing to go to AOL gatherings off-line and watch the jaws in the crowd kinda drop when this tiny, opinionated babe gets up to speak as "Quirk." ::grin::  
—QUIRK

Lesbian On-Line?

OutlawGal: Tell me, how did you get involved in this online world anyway?

QUIRK: Well, I received an introductory kit in the mail and popped it into my computer, hooked up the modem and I signed onto AOL. The first time I went in a chat room, everyone kept typing "LOL" which I thought meant "Lesbian On Line," so I figured: Hey, great service! Sign me Up!! ;)

OutlawGal: What intrigued you enough to continue exploring?

erings off-line and watch the jaws in the crowd kinda drop when this tiny, opinionated babe gets up to speak as "Quirk." ::grin::

OutlawGal: I \*love\* that !!!

QUIRK: But generally I avoid the "male or female" and age questions. They're kind of irrelevant in this medium. ;)

OutlawGal: Why do you suppose the gender and age questions get asked at all?

QUIRK: I think it depends on the person who asks them. If you're looking for a date, age and gender might be im-

tapping into the power of this medium.

Power to Which People?

OutlawGal: Whoa! Information is power??

QUIRK: Here's an example. Recently there was an upcoming vote on domestic partnerships in Atlanta, GA. One of our members took it upon himself to post background information about both the bill and each of the city council members in Atlanta. He included E-Mail & FAX numbers for each member, as well as a short bio about whether they were FOR, AGAINST or a SWING vote. GLCF

the online world makes it easier to come out, then?

QUIRK: TOTALLY! I've received countless letters from people who really had no clue there were other

## HERE'S A GLOSSARY OF SYMBOLS AND TERMS THAT WE USED:

:) Smiley Face (hold the paper sideways to see it!)

;) Wink and a Smile

:D Great Big Smile

;D Wink and a Great Big Smile

(\_) Coffee Mug

AOL American Online

Chat Room A space online where live conversations may be held

LOL Laughing out Loud

ROTFL Rolling on the floor laughing

\*\* Text set off by asterisks indicates emphasis, like italics.

:: :: Text enclosed in double colons indicates action being taken.

Quirk: At the time, I was living in a \*small!\* town in North Carolina. I had just come out and was itching to connect with other out queers/activist types. I found a MOTHERLODE online! The service was pretty small back then, and I met a slew of fascinating folks. I loved the ability to exchange ideas and strategies with folks all over the continent, with all sorts of perspectives. And I particularly liked the ease of communication. Just crank up the computer, and zoom into cyberspace. Ya don't even have to get dressed! ;)

OutlawGal: Eeeeeeeep!

Who Is Quirk...and Why Is Quirk Laughing?

OutlawGal: You keep your identity ambiguous...gender-wise, age-wise, etc...could you explain why?

Quirk: Sure. One of the benefits of communicating online is that a lot of the visual stereotypes/hindrances (and benefits!) are removed. Interaction is based on ideas, rather than on appearance. I've found this to my benefit. Folks attribute qualities to me that fit what I \*do\* rather than what I look like. It's not a secret that I'm a woman. But a lot of folks are very surprised to discover this. I find it amusing to go to AOL gath-

portant. If you're looking for conversation, it's less so.

What's In it for Us?

OutlawGal: Okay...you're in charge of the lesbian and gay forum on America Online. Could you tell our B.A.R. readers what they might get...by signing onto AOL and looking up your forum?

QUIRK: Sure. First, we have over 3000 folks on our Forum mailing list alone. This doesn't even include those visitors who hang out and read/post in the GLCF (Gay and Lesbian Community Forum). We have a large cross-section of individuals, backgrounds, experience. And the GLCF itself includes eight message bases covering thousands of topics from, for example, "Men in Briefs" to the recent Virginia Lesbian custody case, to "NGLTF Actions." There's even ACTUP and Log Cabin Club stuff. It's an amazing cross-section. We also sponsor live-chat conferences: 12-Step support groups, to Gender Issues, to Older Dykes, HIV-positive support groups...the list is fairly large. Then there are our file libraries containing pictures, texts of court cases, information on gay/lesbian/bi/gender issues. The forum provides \*instant\* access to information. Queers are definitely

members rallied: wrote letters, faxed letters and sent E-Mail describing the benefits of passing this bill. It came down to the wire, and passed.

OutlawGal: Do you think the online world makes it easier to come out, then? QUIRK: TOTALLY!

Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are

OutlawGal: OK, I'm truly impressed. What are some of the more fun aspects to your job online?

QUIRK: Well, one of the best parts of this is seeing so many otherwise isolated queers being able to connect with a community. A lot of folks coming out of whatever closet they're in and getting support online.

OutlawGal: Do you think

We also sponsor live-chat conferences: 12-Step support groups, to Gender Issues, to Older Dykes, HIV-positive support groups...the list is fairly large.  
—QUIRK

queers, AT ALL. People who felt very, very isolated, depressed, and scared are now some of the most witty, active, OUT people in the forum. And a great source of support to the new folks.

OutlawGal: So what exactly is your position, your job, in this virtual medium?

QUIRK: I think of myself as a translator, actually. OutlawGal: Oh?

QUIRK: I enjoy being able to hook up different groups, organizations, individuals to a common link. I like seeing the debate between a conservative gay Republican and a Lesbian Avenger. I like the way the dialogue helps both see the larger picture. I think I do my job best, when people don't know I'm there. If I set up a place where people can exchange ideas and make a noticeable change in the status quo, and if they get a greater satisfaction in their own power to make change: then I've been successful.



Author's note: Those interested in signing up for America Online should call the AOL toll-free customer service number: (800) 827-6364. You'll receive free software and five free hours online to try out the service. And, hey...while you're online drop me or QUIRK a note! ;)



# THIS WEEK

## FRIDAY 7

**Bewitched, The Play**  
New theatrical version of the old TV show. Proceeds go to the HIV Touring Project. \$15. 8pm. Extended thru 1/29, New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

**Box 27**  
Michael Norman Mann's play about a gay Marine, his father, his master sergeant, a late night card game, and that nasty little box on those questionnaires that asks who you sleep with. See it with a friend in uniform. Thru Jan. 23. Wed. thru Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. \$17.50 - 20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

**The Dyke and the Porn Star**  
Bayla Travis' duo show about erotic perspectives on passion. If she makes you hot, can she make you happy? \$7. 10:30pm. Fridays thru Jan. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.

**Funny Gay Males**  
Jaffe Cohen, Danny McWilliams and Bob Smith, three New York gay stand-ups, make one of the funniest teams around. \$10. 8pm. Thru 1/12. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

**Juliana Coles**  
A Hangman's Party: paintings and drawings. Opening reception 6-8pm. The Clay Studio, 52 Julian Ave. 431-6296.

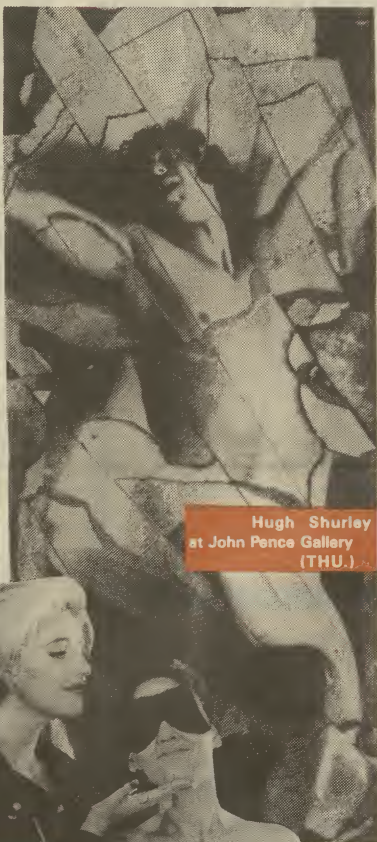
**Love Is Blind: The Dyke and the Porn Star (SAT.)**

**Midsummer Night's Dream Measure for Measure**  
Shakespeare & Co.'s production of two great Shakespeare plays in repertory. \$10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Thru 1/30. YMCA Theater, 220 Golden Gate Ave. at Leavenworth. 267-6165.

**The Queen**  
Two years before Stonewall, New York's Town Hall hosted a drag ball, a wild outrageous camp fest, judged by Andy Warhol, Terry Southern, George (ugh) Plimpton, Jim Dine, Larry Rivers and Edie Sedgwick. (RIP), among others. The resultant documentary film is a must-see. Opening night is hosted by surviving stars of the movie Miss Harlow & the Flawless Sabrina. (7pm). The Castro should be clogged with heels and wigs this weekend. \$6. Thru 1/9. Castro Theatre at Market. 621-6120.

**Sleeping With You**  
Godfrey Hamilton and his lover Mark Pinkosh collaborated on this touching one-man show about the enduring nature of love, gay of course. Proceeds benefit the Santa Cruz AIDS Project. \$10. January 6-16. 8pm. Sundays at 6:30pm. The Santa Cruz Art League, 526 Broadway. (408) 457-1884.

**Scott Siedman**  
"Love Over Death," an exhibit of six artworks. Opening reception, 7-9pm. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes. 626-1936.



**Hugh Shurley**  
at John Pence Gallery (THU.)

## SATURDAY 8

**Always...Patsy Cline**  
Country western musical about the life of the great crooner and her devoted fan, Louise Seger. \$18-26. 8pm. Also 2pm Sat. and 2pm & 7pm Sun. Mason Street Theatre, 340 Mason. 98-CLINE.

**Beyond Therapy**  
Christopher Durang's quirky farce about shrinks, lovelorn bisexuals, and nut job therapists. \$20. 8pm. Hotel York's Plush Room, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

**Box Conspiracy**  
George Coates' latest multimedia theatre work invokes a Nielsen family and the insidious interactive tube technology that takes over their lives. \$14-34. 8pm. Thru 1/30. George Coates Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 863-4130.

**Chuck Largent's Crazy Amateur Hour**  
See singing and comic talents or show your own stuff. Cash prizes. Host Gladys Bumps, Bar-B-Que Hayes & others. \$7. 10:45pm. Saturdays thru Jan. Charpe's Bar & Grill, 131 Gough St. 621-6766.

**Dread Zeppelin**  
Straight camp revealed! Led Zeppelin covers sung by an Elvis impersonator. Opening band: Super Diamond. \$15. 9pm. Slim's, 333 11th St. 255-0333.

**Gay Comedy Night**  
Danny Williams, Mark Davis, & Liz Olsen turn on the comedy. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

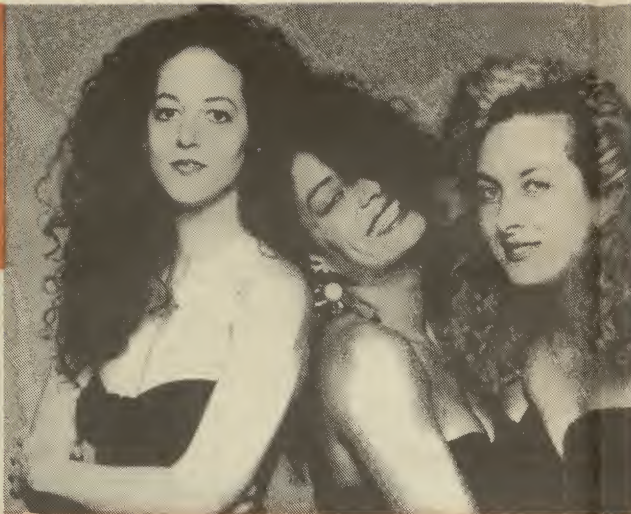
**Kronos Quartet & Huun-Huur-Tu**  
Local fave music group performs with the Throat Singers of Tuva, a Mongolian vocal ensemble. Kronos also performs *Elvis Everywhere*, using samples from Elvis impersonators. \$19-25. Stanford Memorial Auditorium, Stanford University, Palo Alto. 725-ARTS.

**The Mathematics of Change**  
Josh Kornbluth's one-man show about his teenhood dream of becoming a math whiz. \$12-18. 8:30pm. Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm. Thru 1/9. Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-8822.

**Nonsense II: The Second Coming**  
Sequel to the silly nun show, also shown in rep with the original *Nonsense*. \$14-18. 8pm. Mats. at 2pm Sat. & 3pm Sun. Thru 1/30. Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Blvd., Willows Shopping Center, Concord. (510) 671-3388.

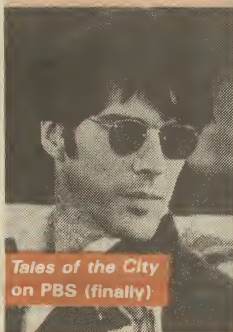
**Renew Year**  
Installation and painting show of works by Reginald Cox, Donna Han, Cliff Hengst, Melissa Levin & Tim O'Toole. Opening reception 5-8pm. Thru 1/29. Kiki, 483 14th St. 863-KIKI.

**Webb**  
LA performance artist, a sort of Roger Corman beatnik, spins her comic tales and sings songs, accompanied by a farfisa. \$5. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. at Florida. 863-4177.



## Best, Better, Betty

Washington, a few pockets of New Yorkers knew to shout, "Hello, Betty!" Now you know. When you see the funnest, coolest, semi-cappella women's vocal trio in the land, be sure to say, "Hello, Betty!" and say it loud. These women have been vocal supporters of the queer community for years, and some of the group is lesbianic, we hear, but they seem to rotate who actually is. Either way, they croon witty and wise sentiments in eloquent arrangements, from rock to jazz to folk, all with a tight urban edge. January 9. \$12. 7:30pm. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. 885-0750.



**Tales of the City**  
on PBS (finally)

Marty Pottenger is a performance artist and a construction worker. Sometimes she does both at the same time. She's back in town from New York to do a few more nights of her intimate evening of tales and hammer-swinging, **Construction Stories**, at Theatre Rhinoceros January 7 & 8 at 8pm, and Sunday at 3pm. Proceeds benefit Theatre Rhino and Tradeswomen, Inc., a support and advocacy group for women in the blue collar trades. \$20. Theatre Rhino, 292 16th St. 861-5079.

## Build

You can stay home and watch **Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City**, the BBC-produced miniseries about our lovely city and its groovy varied '70s residents (Jan. 10, 11 & 12 at 9pm on Channel 9). You

## Tale's Told

can also stop by the variety of benefits for KQED and American Playhouse on closing night, including a dinner at Yerba Buena Gardens (sort of a big-screen TV dinner, I guess) for \$75 - 500 per person. There'll be all sorts of amusing setups, with some areas resembling 28 Barbary Lane, others like the End Up (guess where the cheaper tickets are?). 252-9720.



**Flaming**  
Cliff Hengst's drawings at *Renew Year* (SAT.)  
Del Sherman lights up in *Why Things Burn* (WED.)





## SUNDAY 9

**Connie Champagne**  
Mambo Italiano! Connie sings pop songs Italiano as Cordiva Luna! \$5. 10pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

**Gino Hollander**  
Expressive, colorful mixed media paintings and lithographs. Thru 1/31. circle Gallery, 140 Maiden Lane. 989-2100.

**Midnight Squares**  
Advanced and challenged level square dancing, with caller Mike Jacobs of Virginia. \$5. 7-9:30pm. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond at 18th sts. 861-1979. 558-8467.

**Mocha Mixer**  
Coffee house social for Asian and Pacific Islander gay/bisexual men & their friends. 3-5pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. Sponsored by GCHP. 575-1526.

**Out There**  
Rebroadcast of the lesbian and gay comedy special, with Lea Delaria, Marga Gomez, Mark Davis, Pomo Afro Homos and many more. 11:30pm. Comedy Central. Cable Channel 39.

**Through the Dark**  
Color photos by Barbara Kyne, who is also documenting gay, lesbian and straight couples. Also Brian Andrews' *Mythic Energy*, an exhibit of his sculptures. Thru 1/28. Wagner Ranch Campus, 360 Camino Pablo Road, Orinda. (510) 254-0105.

Betty said, "rybody!" March on "Hello, semi-a o, Betty!" the queer hear, but witty and to folk, American

nce artist sometimes ne. She's do a few ening of struction

## Building Blocks

ort and the blue- no, 2926

## MONDAY 10

**David B. Abbott**  
Colorful abstract paintings. Opening reception 5-7pm. Dava Diva Salon, 1839 Union St. 621-6584.

### Gay Comedy

**Open Mike**  
MC Danny Williams. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

### Mini Pearl Necklace

Kooky country in a queer kind of drag way, with new band member Jonny Getches on piano. \$2. 9:30pm. Mondays thru Jan. Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market at Sanchez. 861-5016.

### Monday Night Marsh

Performers freestyle with Dorothy Anton, Entropy, David Roche, Judith Rubin. \$6. 8:30pm.

## TUESDAY 11

### Foggy City Dancers

Square dance with gay & lesbian friends. 7:30-9:30pm. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St. 905-4546.

### Gay & Lesbian Folk Dancing

Hoof it up with queer dancers. Every week, 7:30-9:30pm. Eureka Valley Rec. Center, Collingwood at 18th. 585-9784.

### Hot Tuesdays

Bahia's sensual, sexy dance night chases out the mid-week blues. DJ Clay (Latin, house). \$5. 9pm-2am. Bahia Tropical, 1600 Market at Franklin.

### Susan Griffin

The author of the Pulitzer Prize finalist, *A Chorus of Stones: The Private Life of War*, reads from her work. Free. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

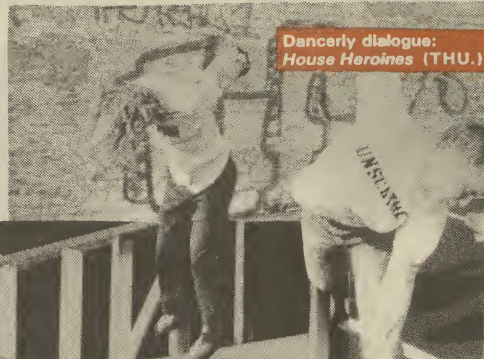
## WEDNESDAY 12

### Anima

James Balog's photos of humans and chimpanzees. Thru 1/29. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. 621-2107.

### Ceremony of Spirit

Nature and memory in contemporary Latino art, including artists from Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Panama. \$3. Thru 2/20. The Mexican Museum, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-0404.



Dancerly dialogue: House Heroines (THU.)



Marty Pottenger gets busy: Construction Stories

**Joseph DiStefano**  
Ceramic paintings and sculpture in "hybrid fresco." Thru 1/30. Cafe 817, 817 Washington St., Oakland. (510) 271-7965.

### Nature in Process

Environmental installations expressing concerns about the ecology. Thru 2/20. California Crafts Museum, Ghirardelli Square, Rose Court. 771-1919.

### Philip Trager: Dancers

Photo exhibit of well-known dancers like Bill T. Jones and Mark Morris. Thru 1/29. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission St. 621-2107.

### Portrait of a March: DC '93

Bob Corti's black and white photos from the March on Washington. Thru Jan. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

### Uncle Vanya

New translation of Anton Chekov's deceptively simple and comic play about the life of the residents at a remote country estate. \$10-23 (previews thru 1/18). \$12-38 afterward. 8pm. 2pm on Wed. & Sat. mat. 3pm on Sun. Thru 3/6. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter at Mason. 749-2ACT.

### Why Things Burn

Marlane Meyer's comedy about the nature of evil, a radical militia of young men with maps to stars' homes, chips on their shoulders, and matches to burn. \$17-21. 8:30pm. Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm. Thru 2/13. Magic Theatre, Fort Mason Center. 441-8822.

## THURSDAY 13

### The Boyfriend

High-spirited '20s musical. \$14-16. 8pm. Thru 1/29. Los Altos Conservatory Theatre, Los Altos. 941-5228.

### Charles LeDray

Masculinity and heroism explored through hand-sewn uniforms, assembled clothing and exploration of gay "butch" imagery. Thru 1/29. Jack Hanley Gallery, 41 Grant Ave. 291-8911.

### Dos Fallopia

Seattle dyke comedy duo brings their outrageous parodies to the stage. Meet The Spudds (dysfunctional country mother-daughter team), Surly Girls (British grungers), Compost

### Morning Dew & Dolphin Free

Tuna Woman (retro-folkies). A must-see. \$10. 8pm. Thru 1/16. Added 10pm shows on Fri.

Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

### The Edge

Basket Contest Show your gifts in a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund, with MC Danny Williams and celebrity judges. \$100 prize, plus Balducci photo session for the winner. \$6 beer/soda bust. \$1 per raffie ticket. 8pm. 18th St at Collingwood. 863-4027.

### House Heroines

Dynamic duo Zeltzman and Colburn's performance of death-defying domesticity, dance and discourse. \$10. 8:30pm. Footwork, 3221 22nd St. at Mission. 824-5044.

### Hugh Shurley

Exhibit of mixed media collages, modern in construction, but classic in style. Opening reception 6-8pm. Thru 2/12. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St. 441-1138.

### Queer

Group exhibition of gay, er queer, artists like Kirk Stoller, Keith Hale, Freddie Niem. Opening reception 6-9pm. Thru 1/27. Belcher Studios Gallery, 69 Belcher. 626-8917.

### The Secretaries

Direct from New York, Five Lesbian Brothers perform their insane new comedy about Big Bone, Oregon, and a lumber mill run by smart high-heeled, high-haired secretaries who binge on Slimfast and kill lumberjacks. \$10-20. 8pm. Sat. at 5pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 2/19. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th at Mission. 861-5079.

### Strictly Propaganda

Newsreels and education films from the German Democratic Republic; creepy and biased, just like the fundies. \$5.50. Call for times. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-8999.

## This Week's Dinner Specials

All-American Meatloaf or Chicken Fried Steak with real mashed potatoes & gravy, fresh vegetable & home-baked bread ..... 6.95

Roast Turkey Breast with apple-raisin dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, candied yams and cranberry sauce ..... 7.95

Corn-Crusted Red Snapper with caribbean rice & cajun tarter ..... 8.75

Chicken Carbonara with linguini, creamy garlic & bacon ..... 8.75

Char-Grilled N.Y. Pepper Steak with fettucini alfredo ..... 10.95



### Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th  
Serving Dinner from 5:00-10:30 P.M.

## DRAG EXTRAVAGANZA PREMIERE

Friday at 7:00 with Jack Doroshow (Sabrina from THE QUEEN) in person!



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Bob Schuloff, New York Native

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SUNDAY WITH  
CURRENT GYM CARD

PHOTO: HARBOUR STUDIOS

## BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus

## Starting All Over Again



Sharon Viola and Nick Varetakis flash 1994 smiles during a rare quiet moment on New Year's Eve at the Eagle, probably two of the most popular beverage dispensers in the South of Market area.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

The new year rolled into San Francisco last weekend, bringing with it a plethora of fun things to do all over the city, South of Market included. All up and down the Miracle Mile (Folsom) and on Harrison and Townsend, fun seekers were out in full force. Capacity crowds at the Eagle, Watering Hole, Rey's, Hamburger Mary's, the Stud, Lone Star, My Place, and Pleasure-dome sweated, gyrated and danced the night away up to noontime the next day.

Lots of leather people managed to catch Bette Midler's New Year's Eve show

at Civic Auditorium, which featured a surprise ending, a special guest appearance by Patti LaBelle. Etta James' fans wailed at the Great American Music Hall and the Tott's block party TV coverage revealed a lot of gay men and women on the prowl.

Horns, rattles, noise-makers and even some fireworks shattered the cool night air as San Franciscans ushered in 1994. Lots of people decided to stay home and avoid the madness so they could watch all the bowl games the next day. Some real heartbreakers!

Yes, 1994 is here and with it comes renewed hope of bet-

ter things to come and resolutions all around about getting busy, volunteering and helping out wherever needed. To this end, I smoked my last cigarette on New Year's Eve, a few seconds before the stroke of midnight. I trust my partner in crime down in Los Angeles will end up owing me the \$100 bet we made. If he doesn't, well, all the better for both of us!

A lucky dude who found a \$20 bill in one of the balloons dropped from the ceiling at the Eagle on New Year's Eve tried to buy me a Stolichnaya. It was a nice gesture, but isn't

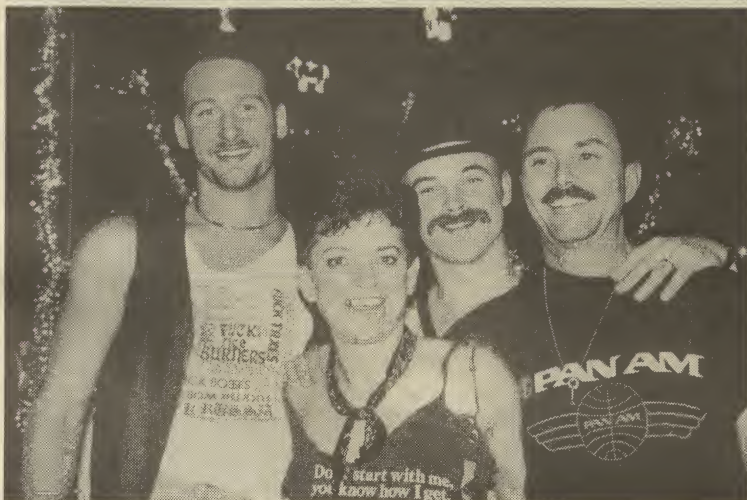
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Not wishful thinking as Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather Frank Nowicki (l.) with Drummer Magazine editor, Marcus Wonaucutt, kibitzes by donning the IML sash owned by Henri Ten Have. Frank hands his own sash over at the Mid-Atlantic Leather Contest on Sunday, Jan. 16 in Washington, D.C.



## Mr. Marcus



Torn Jeans Contest winners at the Rainbow Cattle Co. last Saturday night, Jan. 1 in Guerneville. The event raised over \$1,000 for Food For Thought in Sonoma County. It was the first contest of the year.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)  
it common knowledge that Smirnoff 100 proof is my drink of choice when it comes to "adult" beverages. Like so many before it, New Year's Eve 1994 was a fun night and I hope yours was a memorable one, too.

★ ★ ★

Taylor Poff, up at the Russian River, had the audacity to stage a torn jeans contest at the Rainbow Cattle Co. in Guerneville on Saturday night, January 1. A big crowd of locals and tourists alike were on hand to see nine contestants (including one woman) vie for the \$69 cash prize.

Since Mr. National Leather Association, Mark Frazier, of Dallas, was in the area, what better way to introduce him to Northern California than by asking him to judge the event? So we made

the trek up there and joined the fun people. When it was all over, and more than \$1000 had been raised for Food For Thought, the winning jeans were not one pair but two — a tie by Keith and Richard of San Francisco. A tall man wearing a pair of jeans that could have doubled for French curtains was the runner-up and the woman won the third place spot. It was a fun night and the place was packed. Good show! The winners donated their cash prize back. Double good show!

★ ★ ★

One of the major money-makers for the AIDS Emergency Fund is the coat-check at the SF-Eagle. For almost two years now, this little concession has been operated by volunteers. Well, know that burnout can play a big part in turnover of volunteers, so if you're not doing anything and

want a chance to help out, they do need at least four more men or women to help out. Maybe you can fit in a shift or two. Interested? Contact Scott Price at (415) 241-5999 and he'll be glad to put you on the duty roster. Do it today!

★ ★ ★

Lots of major leather and leather-related events are headed your way in the first quarter of 1994. In some cases, all the details have not been revealed, but at least the dates are set in stone. And since so many of you have asked me to list events early so that you can make plans, reservations, etc., here are a few, both here and in other places, should you be traveling around.

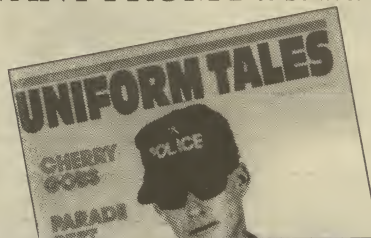
The third biggest leather event in the entire country is the Annual Leather Weekend and Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest in Washington, DC, the weekend of January 14-16. This is a project by the Centaur Motorcycle Club and this year is the 10th anniversary of one of the most successful club events in existence. At my deadline, almost 30 contestants were already signed up to compete.

The weekend package, which includes myriad parties, brunches, cocktails, dinners, buffets, souvenir pin, and the contest itself is a mere \$30. Almost 1500 leather/uniform men will be there again this year. A big SF crowd is always present with perennial judge Vern Stewart on the panel. Intl. Mr. Leather is always the head judge at this one. The deadline for the whole weekend closed already, but you can buy tickets to the contest itself on Sunday, January 16, for only \$20 at the door. At this late date, call (301) 735-6377 for details. Remember, this is Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, so it's a holiday weekend event.

In Portland, Oregon, same weekend, the big Portland Uniform Weekend 2 takes place all weekend with swap meets, beer busts, a banquet, visit to the Police Museum and other activities throughout the City of the Roses. Cops, fire fighters, military and police uniforms will be in abundance. I never did get a complete package deal price

(Continued on next page)

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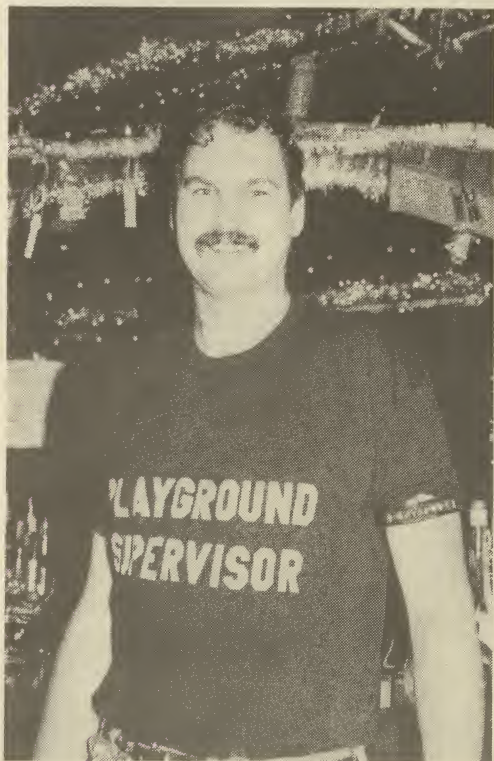
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After three tries at the title, Larry Boeger was publicly named Russian River Leather Daddy at the Rainbow Cattle Co. last Saturday night, Jan. 1st. Larry will complete the term of the title year effective immediately.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)



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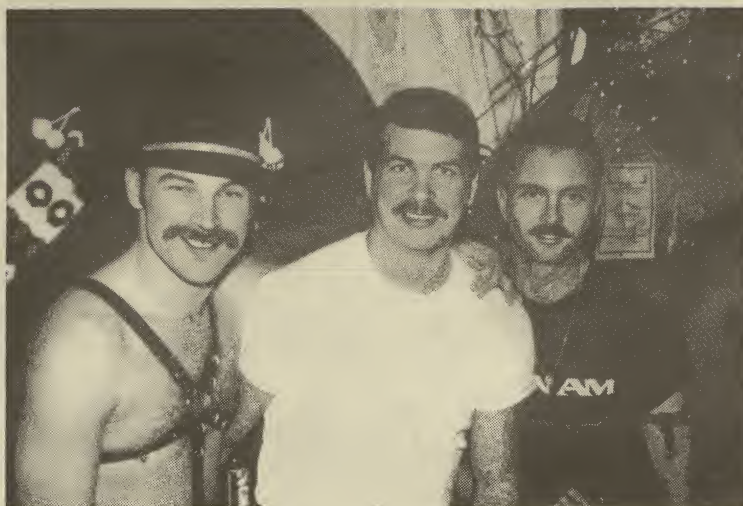
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## Mr. Marcus



Mr. National Leather Association Mark Frazier of Dallas (center) poses with the Torn Jeans Contest winners Keith (l.) and Richard (r.) in Guerneville last Saturday night, Jan. 1.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

on this one, but each function is priced to accommodate your wallet. You can find out all the details you need to know by calling Andy Mangels at (503) 228-6935. Remember, there is no sales tax in Oregon, so uniform bargains galore await you.

The next Ms. Leather of San Francisco will be chosen on Saturday, Jan. 29th. At my deadline, there are no details, but I haven't heard of one contestant vying to succeed Queen Cougar. Stay tuned.

New Orleans is the backdrop for the Lords of Leather Mardi Gras Leather Ball in that city. No details yet, but the date is Sunday, February 13.

Chicago's first rodeo ever takes place the weekend of February 18-20 in the Windy City. If you're interested in knowing more about this, call (312) 642-1675.

Here on the home front, it's Bear Expo '94 on the same weekend, but Ben hasn't bothered to send me any details whatsoever on the event. Steve Heyl, the current Intl. Mr. Bear will be here to sash his successor. With a little bit of luck, I'll have all the pertinent information soon.

In Melbourne, Australia, the boys from down under will hold their first Leather Pride Week, also on February 18-25. I don't have many details yet. Also in February,

the Watering Hole will retire Richard Faust with the Mr. Watering Hole Leather contest. No official date has been set yet.

In March, the *Leather Journal* presents its annual Pantheon of Leather Awards in Houston. Details follow soon, but know there are a lot of San Franciscans nominated. Weekend of March 11-13, NLA San Diego presents their Leatherfest, and in Boston, same weekend, the Boston Leather Knights present their Rubber Weekend. Weekend of March 17-20, International Ms. Leather contest here. All of the above should help you plan your schedule(s) well in advance.

## Affairs to Remember

**Thursday, Jan. 6:** Vern Stewart, Taylor Poff and Philip Turner will judge the first bare chest contest of the year tonight at the Eagle at 9:30 p.m. They'll pick Mr. January 1995 for next year's calendar, and the winner gets a \$100 cash prize. All proceeds to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

**Friday, Jan. 7:** Joseph Bean's exhibition of silhouettes and cut-paper art opens at Mister S tonight with a reception for the artist at 1900. The show hangs until Jan. 29, Mondays through Saturdays, from 1100-1900. Joe is very talented, so don't miss this one!

The Castro Lions' Second An-

nual Scavenger Hunt begins tonight all over town and culminates at the Eagle on Sunday at the beer/soda bust. Singles or teams can enter — \$10 for one hunter and up to \$25 for a team of four. Call Thom Rodgers at (415) 861-0516 for details.

**Saturday, Jan. 8:** Memorial service for Mitch Johnson. 1300 at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street. Call (415) 863-6006.

**Sunday, Jan. 9:** Castro Lions host the beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 and the culmination of the scavenger hunt. \$8, food, fun.

Second Annual Mr. Chubby of San Francisco Contest at the

Lone Star from 1500-1900 to benefit the Godfather Service Fund and the Agitators Softball Team. 50/50 raffle, prizes, surprises and a ton of fun.

**Monday, Jan. 10:** Intl. Ms. Leather Town Meeting to discuss gender, gender identity and related issues at their regular meeting tonight at 1930 at MCC Church. Come and volunteer, give your input on these matters, and/or call (415) 776-2328 for more info.

**Wednesday, Jan. 13:** Basket Contest at The Edge Bar tonight with a beer/soda bust for \$6 from 2000-2400. Winner gets \$100 and a photo session worth \$100 with Joe Balducci. Danny Williams emcees.



Taylor Poff, producer of the Torn Jeans Contests at the River announces that over \$1,000 was raised for Food For Thought with the event staged at the Rainbow Cattle Co., on Saturday, Jan. 1.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)



## Chinese

(Continued from page 35)

ately introduced to a woman officer whose job it is to teach them how to "act gay." That this straight woman would know what to teach them is a given.

## Ray of Hope

One ray of hope out of Hong Kong is the handsome, nattily dressed villain in *Full Contact* (1992). "Judge" (Simon Yam, who seduced the lesbian in *Gigolo*) is a bad guy who holds his own — and then some — among a group of criminals out to pull a major arms heist. He gets his just deserts as the film concludes, but is every bit the equal of the rival hoodlum with whom he teams (and then double-crosses) for the heist. He's a compelling role model for Hong Kong gays feeling boxed in by stereotypes of nellys, victims and homosexuals who are cured by a kiss.

## Ruthless Murderess

Princess, the lesbian hit person in *Naked Killer* (1992), could be considered a female counterpart to Judge. For those who reveled in *Basic Instinct* as a "revenge fantasy" for lesbians and bisexual women, *Naked Killer* offers an even more ruthless murderess: Princess doesn't just ice her victims, she removes their penises as a calling card. At one point she makes love to her girlfriend Baby in a swimming pool red-dened by the blood of their latest casualty.

Although *Naked Killer* borrows much of its plot from *BJ*, its saving grace is its way-over-the-top sense of humor, which recalls *Faster Pussycat Kill Kill*. With its ample doses of lesbian sex — no doubt intended to titillate male audiences — *Naked Killer*

1992; she thought it was a "love story" between women but not about two lesbians.

Were Western audiences reading too much into the film (which in its Mandarin print never does employ the word for lesbian), or did the director unknowingly tap into issues beyond the stated scope of her film?

Significantly, Hui-hua, the more lesbian-oriented (for lack of a better term) of the two characters, is the only member of her village to stand up to sexual injustice — the women are overworked, abused and forced into unsuitable marriages. Her suicide (the arranged marriage of her friend separates the two) is clearly in the film's terms a tragedy and as much an act of defiance as one of shame. "You're just not ready for the likes of me" is one way to read her climactic walk into the sea. Is it just a coincidence that this is precisely how Sappho is alleged to have died?

## Array of Possibilities

It being somewhat early in the cultural dialogue about homosexuality within Chinese-language film, some suggest that other, less "gay-specific" works are a better gauge of conscious and unconscious sentiment toward experimentation with sexual identity. Lawrence Chua, who has written about Asian cinema for the *Village Voice*, *The Nation* and the *New York Times*, points to several gender-bending martial arts sagas as evidence that, at least on the level of fantasy, Asian audiences are being presented with an array of possibilities.

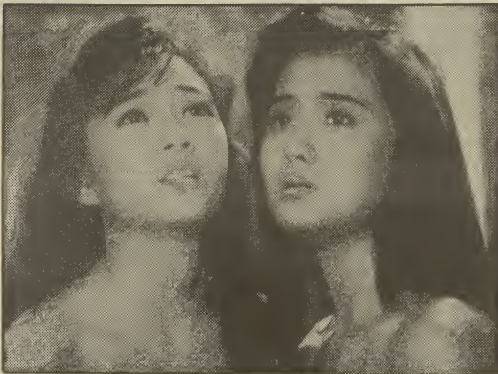
Chua notes that at the end of the Hong Kong-made *East Is Red*, the third part of the popular *Swordsmen* series, a woman who was formerly a man — reversing the equation of maleness and power, he had cut off his penis in exchange for supernatural abilities — sweeps off into the sunset with her former lady love. Whether s/he is gay, straight or transsexual is never directly addressed, this being a drama set in the ancient past.

Chua finds this a plus; writing about *East Is Red* and other martial arts films with similar characters in a recent issue of *The Nation*, he notes, "The power of these stories is that they don't reduce to oppositional categories [such as gay and straight]. The characters inhabit many spaces simultaneously and carry overlapping allegiances as well: to different communities, ethnicities, sects, schools and nations."

A similar fluidity in Chen Kaige's world view has attracted Chua to the filmmaker's work. The writer observed Chen at work on *Farewell My Concubine* in early 1992 and sees him as conducting a discourse about sexuality that "takes place beyond the realm of 'positive' and 'negative.'"

Asked how he feels a homosexual in China might feel about viewing Chen's very melodramatic film, Chua glibly responds, "This film would do for a fag in China what a Joan Crawford film did for a fag in the U.S. If I lived in China, I would take it as a very moving love relationship, however doomed it was."

But, he continues, "The presence of Leslie Cheung complicates things. *Farewell* is more on a par with Gus Van



The Twin Bracelets

Sant's films like *My Own Private Idaho* and *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues*. What do

they do for the guy in Buttfuck, Iowa, who thinks he's gay, has a crush on a guy but

doesn't want to be a dork like the only gays he's seen on screen? I don't know if that sensibility really translates to some parts of Asia, but I imagine it would to others."

The representation of homosexuality — either as an act or what came to be known in the West as a "lifestyle" — is decidedly mixed within Chinese-language film. Clearly, the notion of same-sex attraction as something to embrace is still quite novel. That signs are hopeful, though, can be seen not only in the willingness of filmmakers like Ang Lee and others to put the issue front and center, but also in the increased fluidity of sexual and gender roles in popular mainstream narratives. ▼

Editor's note: All but the most recent films listed above are available at Chinese-language video stores (including Tam's on Taraval) in the Bay Area.

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BAY AREA REPORTER JANUARY 6, 1994 PAGE 51

Some suggest that less "gay-specific" works are a better gauge of conscious and unconscious sentiment toward experimentation with sexual identity.

proves far more sexually democratic than *Basic Instinct* (in which the bisexual lead never has sex with her lesbian love). Best of all, since all the lead characters meet the same end, one needn't fret about favoritism.

In *The Twin Bracelets*, financed by Hong Kong and Taiwanese interests and filmed on the mainland, two young girls make a pact to be "sister man-wife" to each other for the rest of their lives. Its director professed great surprise when the film was the toast of several lesbian/gay film festivals in



## Sports

### Bodybuilding

(Continued from page 42)

member suggestions, ideas and recommendations to be read at the monthly board meetings.

#### Educational Programs

The education committee has already made plans to offer five seminars and workshops in 1994 which will lead up to the NYC Gay Games in June. Scheduled to take place once a month, from January

through May, these seminars are meant to assist in the training of athletes in a variety of sports including bodybuilding, wrestling, track, swimming and boxing. The seminars are planned to address the needs of the novice as well as the experienced athlete. The first seminar to take place on January 23, 1994, will be led by Dr. Abby Irwin, of Oakland, who will give a slide presentation of practical information primarily for women interested in health and fitness, regardless of their particular sport. The

seminar, however, will be of a general nature and is also relevant to male athletes. All monthly seminars will be held on Sundays at Purely Physical Fitness at 1414 Castro Street.

Polishing off the new ABS is a new roster of committees. The new committees include Social and Special Events; Education; Fundraising; Outreach and Newsletter; Gay Games; and By-Laws. For more information on any of the above, call Dr. Mark Thompson at 550-1200 or Jeff Kelley at 992-7406. ▼



Dani Lowry competing in the Physique 92 women's heavyweight division. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)



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\$2.99/MINUTE

18+



HOT LIVE PHOTOS

### TALK IS CHEAP!

3 DAYS FOR ONLY \$5

You'll receive a passcode good  
for 3 full days of use. Updated  
bulletin board, live 1-on-1  
connections and more...

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### LEATHER BUDDIES

A PRIVATE CLUB  
979-0242

Black J/O Club. Info? Box  
10776, Oakland, CA 94610. E02

DADDY WILL TRAIN  
Trim lad in the Art of  
Obedience thru Bondage  
and Discipline. Tom 282-5439

E02

Spanking  
Hot spankings for bad  
boys. Safe. (415) 399-0221 E01

Great Cocksucker 285-8390 E03

Hotass FFB Fit 58. 292-7906

E01

## MASSAGE

25 YR LATIN

HOT

Honest great looks  
648-1919

Let Me Give You the Best  
Massage Ever! • 415-773-9130

E01

Hot Erotic Massage  
French Canadian Stud  
Josh 821-9596

E01

### EROTIC MASSG

C.M.T. Call: 775-4771 24-Hrs.

E01

Power-Blend of Qi Gong, Swe-  
dish, Points, Deep-Tissue,  
Stretches, by skilled, hand-  
some CMT/CHT. 75 min.  
\$50/60 In/Out. Jim 752-8846

E01

Young, Handsome, Hot  
HAIRYCHESTED MAN  
Rob 560-4371 In/out  
Nude Erotic Massage

E01

Full-Body Erotic Massage  
Gdl Blond, Near SFO  
343-7140 Ken

E01



### EROTIC

Sensual Touch  
Nude Massage  
By Muscular Dude  
PH: ANTHONY 861-6027

## MASSAGE

### Be Stimulated By The

### RAGIN' CAJUN'

Ex-Football Jock Gives  
The Massage of a Lifetime  
Butch 621-4316 24 Hrs.  
\$40/\$55 E01

Nude mass by well built man.  
42 Dwtwn Mark 398-2441 24hr

E04

Goodlooking Guy Gives  
Excellent Massage. Smart,  
Built. Jim 558-9688

E01

SENSUAL MASSAGE  
SENSUAL LATINO  
Bpr # (510) 308-6985

Vidal Out Only

E03

Very Cute, Boyish 22 y/o  
Blond-Blue-Tan-Smooth  
HOT NUDE MASSAGE

24 hrs. 905-4548 LV# \$80/up

E04

### EROTIC MASSAGE

1 1/2 Hrs-\$40/In \$65/out

Older Men Welcome. Hotels.

24 Hrs. (415) 346-4677

E01

### DISCOUNT MSG.

C.M.T.\$20-30Call:775-4771 24hrs.

E01

### BEAR FACTS

Hairy Italian, Ex-Football  
jock rubs you the right  
way. Butch 621-4316. 24 Hrs.  
\$40 In/\$55 Out

E01

### Attractive, Smooth

### CHINESE MAN

China-Trained Masseur

Full-Body. Lin 664-3311

E01

Warm, Erotic, Complete, Full  
Body Massage. East Bay. \$25.  
Days-Evenings-Weekends.

Why pay more for a great  
massage? Jim (510) 527-2714

E01

### SONOMA COUNTY

Sensual Massage & Hot Tub

in a retreat setting,

Body Electric Trained, CMT.

Harry (707) 824-8040

E01

### EPICURE

Massages & Baths by Blond.

Greg, CMT 346-1061

E02



Photo by Original

Richard Light  
Certified Massage  
15 St. & Dolores  
\$40/1 1/2 Hrs., \$30/1 Hr.  
Sliding Scale  
Non Sexual  
864-1320

### FIRESIDE MASSAGE

1 1/2 Hours of Nurturing Touch

Sliding Scale Fee

Johnny 567-2952

(Pacific Hts.)

Swedish / Salon-Acupressure-Shiatsu

### ELECTRIC MASSAGE

TRY IT!

BY DAVID 457-5795

E01

Nude Buffed Masseur

Daniel 621-2354 In/Out

E01

Erotic Massage By Bearded

Wizard. Only \$40 in. Call

today. Hermann 648-0604

E01

### EMBARCADERO

\$40, 10 yrs. Exp./CMT, Table.

The Best! Robbie 543-3058

E01



TOM 458-4217

MARIN/SF 10AM-11PM

E01

Masculine 28 y/o Offers

Erotic Nude Massage

Daniel 621-2354 In/out

E01

### MUSCLE

Strong full-body massage

by muscular, handsome CMT.

Deep tissue/Swedish. \$35/Hr.

Dave 558-9727 Eves/Wkends

E03

### Experience Vitality

Powerful / Soothing

Personalized Touch

Flexible Rates

Certified

Swedish/Shiatsu

David

(415) 552-0473

E01



Enjoy a lush, full-body

### MASSAGE

under the experienced hands of

### JAS DEWSNAP

Certified Massage Therapist

and registered Jin Shin Do® Acupressurist

Sensuous • 864-5447 • Satisfying

Castro location \$40 • 1 1/2 hours • Discount PWA's

E01

### LOVING STROKES

Nurturing, Sensual

Healing, Satisfying

STRONG HANDS

SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED

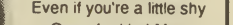
From Stress Reduction to

Simple Relaxation

STEVE C.M.T.

821-2985

E01



### Blond Canadian

Even if you're a little shy

One-of-a-kind-Man

When you need a

friendly hand, a warm

sensual experience

& a fun man,

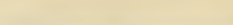
6', 195, nude, erotic

Swedish hot lotion rub.

Experienced

Ron • 922-3250 • 24hr

E01







# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

### SHIATSU



Regain balance  
in your life  
through touch

- maintain optimum health
  - reduce stress
  - relaxation guaranteed
  - nonsexual
  - 1 1/2 hours \$50
- Andrew 861-1756

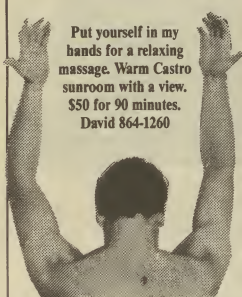
In Walnut Creek, Goodlooking, friendly, Italian guy with strong touch. Older, married welcome. Days only. 9-6pm (510) 945-6351

### IRISH CHARM

Plus Pro Excellence  
Guarantee Your Pleasure!  
Nude Swedish Massage By  
Gdiking CMT. Tim 824-7249



Nurturing/Caring  
Massage  
**558-9906**



Put yourself in my  
hands for a relaxing  
massage. Warm Castro  
sunroom with a view.  
\$50 for 90 minutes.  
David 864-1260

### PLEASURE IS YOURS

MASSEUR offers strong hands,  
sensitive touch, warm studio.  
Convenient Castro Location  
Days & Evenings

**TODD 415/861-9909**



**HENRY ROMERO**  
Certified Massage Therapist  
Member — AMTA  
Soothe away stress and tension  
with a 90 minute massage in a  
warm, comfortable environment  
Gift Certificates Available  
Call 553-4122

### Swedish at its best.



MARTIN  
**863-8544**

Sensual Massage 998-0590  
MAJOR HOTELS — 24 HR.



Swedish Massage  
Nature  
**CMT 474-2740**

**ASIAN XTA-C**  
Nude Massage \$25. 615-2768  
Cozy Environment

**DEEP TISSUE**  
Big Strong Hands On a Big  
Muscle Hairy Guy w/No  
attitude. Robbie 861-1671



**Mike 252-0730 \$60**

Skilled Friendly CMT



861-9950

\$50  
in only

Marty  
McCorkle

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**CLASSIC TOUCH FOR  
THE CONNOISSEUR**

Therapeutic Massage  
9am — 9pm  
Richard, CMT 431-9608

### "A Massage Should Be . . ."

Powerful, Gentle, Soothing, Relaxing, Healing, 100%  
and Professional.



For an experience that will  
relieve your stress and tension  
and provide you with a sound  
mind and body.

**John S. Haas,** Swedish Esalen  
C.M.T. \$45.00 1 Hr.  
Accupressure \$55.00 1 1/2 Hr.  
(415) 255-1520 In/Out

### ★ BOYZ R US ★

2 YOUNG BOYS  
offer full body massage.  
24 y/o, 5'9", 150 lbs., German  
21 y/o, 5'11", 155 lbs., Asian  
★ Double Your Pleasure ★  
\$60 for 1 or \$100 for 2  
698-CUTE 4 CALLBACK

Greg 252-0389 In/Out ★ 24 Hrs.

Complete Massage By A

### SEXY BLOND BOY

Tan ★ Smooth ★ Built ★ Very Cute

Message 24 Hr.  
By Strong, Muscular

### VERY SEXY-MAN

In/Out 280-4182

Great Deep Swedish, Shiatsu

Ed 647-4388 \$35/hr.

7 Yrs. Cert. Noe Val. Loc.

### DEEP MASSAGE

6' Gym Toned, 26

Offers Full-Body

Erotic Massage \$50

**DAVID 749-1166**



Experienced Professional

### The Perfect Balance

of Erotic and Therapeutic Massage

Powerful Yet Painless Deep Tissue Work

Swedish and Acupressure

\$35/60min Castro District \$45/90min

**Markus 864-4209 CMT**

### CELEBRATE BODY MAGIC

Relaxing, healing hot-oil massage

Sensuous, ecstatic bodywork

Nurturing - Supportive - Intuitive

**Jack Walder, CMT**

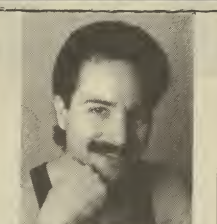
252-7100

1 1/2 hrs. - \$40 - Discount PWAs

CASTRO LOCATION



Photo by Original



### Nice & Relaxed

A full-body Swedish massage

will bring you bliss.

Warm table, warm oil.

**Bob 824-6713**

certified, experienced



### EAST BAY LATIN

SENSUAL EROTIC MASSAGE

\$35 (510) 654-4504

\*Outcalls to S.F. Also

### ORTHOPEDIC MASSAGE

**JACK EIMAN**

695-7808

Deeply relaxing and very

effective for stiff-neck and

shoulders, back pain, sport-

ing injuries, computer

stress, etc. I've had excellent

training. Please call for

detailed info. Thank you.

### ★ SF HOTELS ★

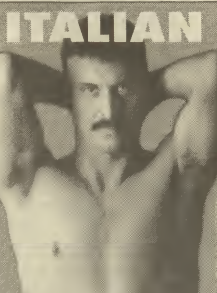
FRIENDLY 24-HR ROOM SERVICE

Young • Smooth • Auburn Blond

Healing • Relaxing • Complete

■ CASH, CHECK, MC/VISA ■

**KORY ☎ 773-9130**



### ITALIAN

GOOD MAN, GOOD MESSAGE

EAST BAY • SF • \$35

510-654-5889



### INDULGE YOURSELF

Enjoy the nurturing magic of a soothing deep

tissue Swedish-Esalen massage in a warm and

comfortable environment. Castro location. Gift

Certificates available. Sliding scale for people

living with HIV.

**MARK CARMODY**

(415) 861-5441 Certified



### Sensual Massage

6', 175, In/Out

(510) 658-2437



# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

**Nude Swedish Massage**  
**SENSUOUS TOUCH**  
Eric 564-6277  
\$35 IN/\$45 OUT

**MELT WITH A MESSAGE**  
Sensual Complete FullBody Massage  
combining Swedish/Esalen & Acupressure  
techniques for total tension relief.  
AFTERNOONS & EVENINGS  
6'4" ASIAN 175 #  
CHUCK 221-3477 CERTIFIED

**SUPERB MESSAGE**  
**JEFF GIBSON, CMT**  
626-7095  
\$45

Whether your goal is stress management, eliminating nagging aches and pains, or simply to feel great, I can help. Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports-massage • Trigger Point • Cross Fiber • PNF Stretching • and more!

**MIKE**  
ULTIMATE SENSUAL MESSAGE  
641-0780

Erotic Sensitive Touch  
Masterful Hands. 621-2354 E01

South Bay Area  
★ SEXY LATIN ★  
25 y/o, handsome, smooth, firm.  
Carlo. Pgr. (408) 975-8203  
2nd Masseur Available E02

San Jose — Swedish Massage  
\$30/hr. \$45/1½ Hr. In-calls  
Anthony (408) 288-6169-CMT E08

Sensual, Professional, Soothing  
Erotic Touch for You — For  
Less! Satisfaction. YES  
**NWYR SPECIAL**  
\$20/\$25/\$30Vic CMT 552-5364 E01

Strong Sensitive Touch  
Masculine 28 y/o. 621-2354 E01

Four Hand Massage  
Double Pleasure  
(510) 549-9044 E02

Relax with a very smooth  
Masc. Asian. Bpr. 207-2333 E04

**STRONG-SENSITIVE EAST BAY**  
Swedish, Deep Tissue  
Certified Fit Gdkg Man  
\$45 Jim (510) 644-1625 E04

**HANS**  
**NORWEGIAN MAN**  
Wholesomely Handsome, 33  
6', 195 lbs., great tan body  
1½ hr. super massage  
in nude; Japan Center  
\$45/In \$60/Out 24 hours.  
**292-2373**



**DOUBLE PLEASURE**  
Sensual Massage by  
Two Hot Guys  
**Chris & David**  
285-9710

**Daniel Lessa-Zielinski, CMT**  
Deep,  
Relaxing,  
Sensual,  
Swedish/Esalen  
Massage by  
Strong,  
Experienced,  
Caring  
Hands  
415-863-2575  
90 min/\$55 • Castro Location • Parking



**BODY WORK**  
**MATT**  
Sensual Massage by appointment  
255-6040

**BRYAN**  
Deep Sensuous Nude  
massage by a goodlooking  
hairy chest. 34 y/o, CMT  
in/out (415) 824-7249 E01

Major SF Hotels • Discreet  
24-Hr. Rm. Service • 773-9130 E01

\$25.00 SPECIAL  
Holiday Prof'l Massage  
CMT George (415) 864-0450 E02

Does A Body Good!  
Kory 773-9130 Trim, 28 y/o  
Strong Hands • Great Touch! E01

**EAST BAY**  
Professional Full-Body  
Massage in Lafayette, CMT.  
Light to deep work PWA Disc.  
Call Larry (510) 283-6217

**HEALING MESSAGES**  
**R.L. BATES**  
(415) 567-6847

**Personal Touch**  
Full Body Massage  
By Muscular Man  
647-3068  
Swedish/Shiatsu  
Twin Peaks location  
\$45 in \$65 out  
Dann  
10am-10pm  
EZ Parking

**RELAX**  
Treat yourself to a strong yet  
soothing massage by a caring &  
sensitive professional in a warm &  
cozy environment.  
**ERIK GEORGE, CMT**  
Gift Certificates Available.  
\$55 / 1½ HR.  
552-1183 10 AM - 10PM



**Nurturing Touch**  
Healing Experience  
Friendly, professional and at Castro/24th  
with parking. My training is in Esalen, and  
acupressure. MASSAGE sessions designed  
to meet your needs and preferences.  
\$45/75 min. Call Me Soon!  
Daniel 641-4854

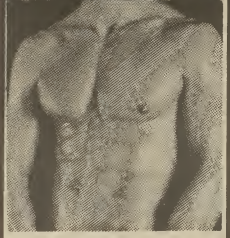
**Shiatsu • Oil Massage • \$50**  
Michael Cantal, CMT 861-4472

**A TOUCH OF CLASS**  
**A RELAXING MESSAGE**  
by a handsome, masculine blond,  
6', 190, beautifully nude  
muscular body, summer tan.  
Firm, Erotic Swedish Massage  
Massage Lotion & Table, Hard to Beat it  
\$45/In/\$60 Out 75 mins.  
Mike 931-0149 24 hrs.

★ \$30 Erotic Massage ★ ★  
★ Bill 441-1054. Hot! ★ ★ E02

**PHYSICAL ATTRACTION**  
V-handsome Scandinavian man,  
weight lifter, friendly,  
blond / blue, 6', 185.  
Especially like small  
Asian & Latin men.  
Erotic nude massage.  
**931-3263** Ron  
24 hrs.

**ENVELOPMENT**  
Outstanding Professional Massage  
**MICHAEL 281-0208**



**SPECIAL TOUCH**  
Sensual Nude Massage  
By Extremely Attractive  
Rock Solid Sexy Hunk  
Experience The Difference  
**KIRK 281-5901**

**Simply Superb**



**Integral Massage**  
Many techniques combined for  
massage that is therapeutic,  
healing, energizing, yet deeply  
sensual & relaxing.  
Call The Very Best  
Veet Sandeha (415) 487-1217  
10:00 AM — 8:00 PM

**GENUINE SENSITIVITY.**  
YOUR MUSCLES ARE  
THE FOCUS AS THE  
STRENGTH FROM 21  
YEARS OF PIANO  
TECHNIQUE IS  
COMBINED WITH  
SWEDISH AND SHIATSU  
MASSAGE. THERE IS A  
DIFFERENCE.  
ALLEN,  
252 9442

**MAGIC TOUCH**

**Alex**  
\$30 in/\$60 out



**UNREGRETTABLE**  
Full-Body, Deep Tissue  
Big Hands, Clean-cut, 32.  
\$40/60 min. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Call Rick 552-1775 E02



**NURTURING ESCAPE**  
PROFESSIONAL SWEDISH MESSAGE  
STRONG & INTUITIVE HANDS  
HEALING & RELAXING  
TERRY 824.6455  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!  
**20% off**  
your next massage

Swedish/  
Shiatsu  
Aromatherapy  
★ Sensitive  
★ Strong  
★ Experienced  
★ Non-Sexual  
\$40/HR - \$50/1½ HR.  
\$35/HR - \$45/1½ HR.  
10AM-10PM  
**MAX, CMT**  
431-5758

Cute, Boyish, 20 y/o  
Brn - Blu - Smooth  
**HOT NUDE MESSAGE**  
998-0590, out, 24 hrs. \$75+

**OUTCALLS**  
C.M.T.  
Massage • Erotic  
Eves & Weekends  
Bpr. 837-8839

**THE PLEASURE PRINCIPLE**  
SWEDISH MESSAGE FOR MEN  
For Stress & Total Tension Relief  
6'4" 175 CHUCK, Certified 415.221.3477

**THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE LINE**  
**JUST GOT BETTER!**

**WE ARE A BUNCH OF HOT, SEXY GUYS Hangin' Out, Waiting to Massage or Model for You — Contact us 24 hrs.**

**BAY AREA 1-800 844-3210 759**

**L.A. AREA 1-800 844-4777 759**



**Message Touch Line**  
UPDATED CONSTANTLY





# People and Personals

## MASSAGE

### Ahhh...

Slow • Sensual • Complete  
Johnny • 567-2952 • 24hrs  
• 1 1/2 hrs - \$45/\$60 •

### EROS + AGAPE

TONY 431-8461  
Sexy, BB, CMT, Aim to  
Please. Your Wish —  
My Pleasure!

Hot Massage In The Buff  
SAN JOSE MAN2MAN  
29 y/o, 5'10", 170#, Drk Bld, Bl  
Handsome (408) 237-0731 - Out  
E02

STRONG MESSAGE  
On A Table. In/out  
\$40 (510) 234-4880 E01

PERSONAL TOUCH  
Therapeutic and Erotic  
Deep, Satisfying, Massage  
Certified and Discreet  
Daniel 626-4192 Eves/Wknds

Sensual Msg. Escort & More!  
Hot Jock 821-1674. Kevin  
**ASIAN DREAM**  
E05

Only One Question  
**WANNA MELT?**  
Castro Certified \$35  
Jim de Masseur 864-2430  
E01

**SEXY ASIAN**  
\$60 Jim 267-1817 E05

MARIN  
Sublime bodywork in private  
mountaintop setting.  
Convenient from GG Bridge.  
Christopher, 389-6709 E03

**NEBRASKA FARM BOY**  
Major Hotels \$50/In \$60/Out

Professional  
Full-Body  
Massage  
Swedish/  
Deep Tissue  
Call J.J.  
Non-Sexual  
(415)  
771-4873  
Pgr.  
837-7836  
Apts. Welcome

**MAN TO MAN**  
1 Hour Full Body Rub \$25  
Rod, 35, 6'2", 190  
**824-6590**

### NUDE MASSAGE

Friendly • Caring • Experienced  
Young • Masculine • Smooth  
24 Hours • In/Out • Major Hotels  
Full Body • Satisfying • Complete  
■ **KORY** ■ 773-9130 ■



### ADAM

Wholesome, handsome Man, nice  
hairy Chest, Built Nice & Tight, 6', 195  
lbs., B/Builder, Blonde, Blue, Hunk. I offer  
a nude complete full-body Swedish  
Erotic Massage done with hot lotion.  
In/\$50 Out/\$65

Pamper yourself and Call  
**474-8027**



### AFFIRM SELF-LOVE SWEDISH MASSAGE

By Strong, Creative and  
Experienced Masseur  
Walter, C.M.T. 285-5704

• Relaxing Massage Relief •  
• In or Out • 773-9130 • Kory • E01

### RELAX & RELEASE

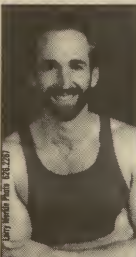
Full-Body Swedish/Esalen  
Massage in North/East Bay  
75 min. \$40/in \$50-60/Out  
Stan CMT (707) 645-1323 E04

Healing Nurturing Massage  
Castro-Downtown • 773-9130  
E01

### ENLIGHTENING

Massage By Young, Sensitive  
& Sensual Athlete  
Call Chris 558-8189 E01

One Hr. Total Please With  
4 Hands Massage. Two Men  
give sensual massage in  
nude. \$60/in \$80/out. 822-3534  
E02



### Quality Bodywork

Friendly,  
Professional  
Nurturing,  
Strong and  
Healing

Castro in or out

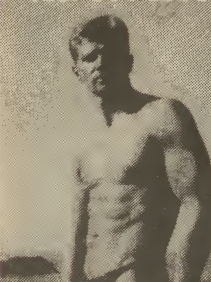
Alan Moore  
708-6052

Enjoy Yourself More!

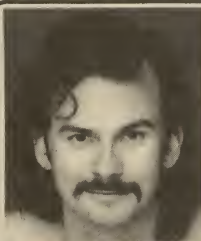
### Best Full Body Massage

Swedish FROM  
Deep-Tissue \$30.00  
Nurturing  
Healing  
Clinton 776-3805

**SENSUAL  
CERTIFIED**  
415/864-1393



FOR THE FIT MAN  
Who Demands the Best  
**RON 563-2392**



**Vitalizing Massage**  
\$60-45/hr ss

**Daniel Raymond**  
ss, cmt  
(415) 731-2834

YOUNG + HANDSOME  
HOT + TALENTED  
My hands'll do you GOOD!  
Friendly. Call Lee 207-3606 E01

LIFE EXTENSION  
Transform negative energy  
to positive energy with a  
massage. Calif. Certified  
masseur will transform  
you. \$40/90 min. In/Out  
Castro area-Mike. 861-1412 E03



**Gentle Touch Massage**  
Alfredo 282-3313

### San Mateo

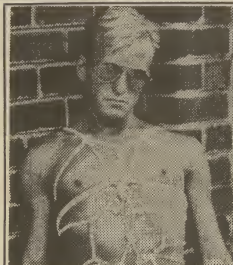
Excellent full body  
massage by exp'd CMT.  
Deep and sensual. \$40.  
JOE (415) 342-5035

### MUTUAL MASSAGE

Relaxing Hot Oil Swedish Massage  
Then Perfect Your Kneading Techniques.  
ASIAN MASSEUR/ESCORT 6'4" 175#  
AFTERNOONS & EVENINGS BY APPT.  
CHUCK, PAGER 201-4679 CERTIFIED



**SWEDISH  
MASSAGE**  
BY  
**GREAT BODY**  
346-6334



DOES YOUR JOB HAVE  
YOU TIED UP IN KNOTS?  
LET AN EXPERT UNTIE THEM.  
**ADAM 292-3222**  
Swedish/Shiatsu Masseur/Model

### !CALIENTE! NEW IN SF

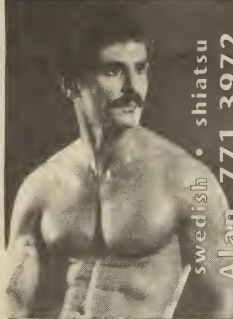
23 y.o., Super Handsome,  
Dreamboy Latino with  
Gymnast Build, 5'5", 145  
lbs., of Rock Hard Muscle!  
Certified in Switzerland.

Treat yourself to  
International Pampering!  
You Deserve The Best!  
\$40/60 Paco 487-9575

Daniel 621-2354 24 Hrs.  
Great Body - Great Touch E01

### WALNUT CREEK

HANDSOME, HAIRY  
MASCULINE, SENSUAL  
NICK (510) 938-2416 E01



### PUERTO RICAN MASSEUR



**Revitalizing Effect**  
647-4423

### E. BAY - LAKE MERRITT

Excellent Massage  
(Esalen/Deep Tissue/Reiki)  
By a Strong, Sensitive, Highly  
Skilled, Nurturing CMT.  
Jason Serinus (510) 444-4169

Place YOUR  
classified ad today!!  
Just Dial  
**861-5019...**  
and see results FAST!

## MODELS & ESCORTS

**dark Irish hunk w  
masculine attitude  
who's hung like  
you'd hope—  
a grower... 255-9615**

### BIGGER IS BETTER

Sexy young stud, 30  
loves to please  
• Big/Overweight Men •  
into all fantasies!  
Jim 441-3131

Extra Hot Muscle Boy With  
**BIG DOG**

Most Scenes Considered  
5'8", 165#, 28 y/o, Call 241-0527  
E02

### 9x6 24-HOURS

Call: 775-4771 24-hours E01

### ★10FATINCHS★

25 y/o, Masc-Friendly-Smooth  
Ready 24 Hrs. Tony 776-1325  
E01

23 YO • BLOND • AUSSIE •  
• 8 1/2 • UNCUT • Pgr. 698-0977  
E02

### PORN STAR HARD MUSCLE

HUNG BIG & THICK  
**6'1", 200 LBS.**  
1-800-307-1823 E01

### HAIRY TEDDY BEAR

Tasty Nuts/Nipples  
Eves/Wkends 255-6455 E01

### HOTTEST MEN

Ready to Please 738-0650 E02

Hot Bottom Black & Built  
390-9973 James E01

Rugged U/C Stroke 961-0924 E03

### HOT SMOOTH

19, BOTTOM  
BRENT 563-6112 E01

Blond Long Hair, Cute Face  
Nice Body. 626-3031 E01

Smooth ★ Italian ★ College Boy

★ 1 TIGHT KID ★

On Vacation 'N Ready to ???

Tony ★ 20 ★ In/out ★ 560-9794  
E01

Handsome Asian 860-7311 E04

Cute, 21, 5'8", 145, Athl Built  
Smooth 7" Does What U Want.

Blk/Brn. \$70 Jim 456-1799 E02

### HOT 22 Y/O Boy

College Boy Ready 4 Action  
Kristian 245-0189 In/Out E01

WASPy Good Looks, 24 y.o.  
Harvard Rowing Team. Built.  
Expensive. Scot 800-676-1349  
E01

### Sexy Goodlooking

**HOT ASIAN**

Tom, pager, 219-1655 E04

### NEW MUSCLE

Ex-hung comp. B.B. Out Only

5'10", 225, 9". 337-4364 E01

### BLACK JOCK

Muscular Hardbody

5'10", 170 lbs., Smooth

9" U/C Top. \$80 Out Only.

Matt 626-6221 E02

### FRENCH MARINE

Body Builder

240 Pounds, 25 years old

6'1", 52" ch., 20" a.

New In Town

From Paris

560-2478

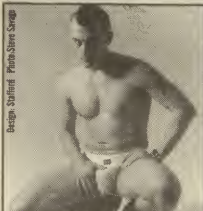


# People and Personals

## MODELS & ESCORTS

### S/M SENSUALITY

—long, & slow—my specialty.  
6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned  
master into all aspects &  
degrees of leatherplay.  
S/M, B&D, FF WS, raunch.  
Lord 431-0959



597-3675  
\$100 in/out \$75 Afternoon Special

### Preppy Top

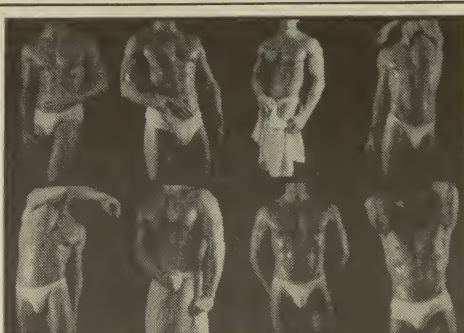


JEFF 627-1779  
25 y/o, 6'4", 180#  
HOT BOTTOM  
510-938-9160, 415-907-4473 Ric

### STRONG, SOLID &



931-SEXY  
6' 175# 42c 23w Brn/Blu  
Massage included  
Friendly/BayAreaTravel  
9X6



280-0725  
Photos by Steve Savage Design by Buck

### ☆ JUST SAY YES!!! ☆

I'll Do The Rest... Sexy, Hung, 6',  
160#, 30 y.o., Stud, Incredibly  
Smooth Skin, Muscular, Super  
Talented Lips & Hands. Big,  
Gorgeous Tool, Huge Load. Lots  
of Body Contact, Romantic.  
Second Stud Available Also. From  
\$60 In/Out Hotels.

☆ JACK 708-3325 ☆

### HARD JOCK

5'9", 140 lbs., BI/BI 21 y/o  
Masc. Highschool Boy  
San Jose—Will Travel. \$100.00  
+. (408) 994-2840 pgr. Cobra

### MEMPHIS BELLE

Masc. Southern Boy  
25, 5'11", 150  
Brn/Grn, Hung  
San Jose Out.  
\$100.00  
pgr. (408) 994-2757

Hot Hawaiian-Jap. Pornstar  
2 Rock-Hard Smooth Globes  
of Butt! 27, 24 Hr. 328-5304

### ASIAN TOP

\$60 Jim 267-1817

### HUNG GERMAN

6'2", Blond, 175#  
Kurt, pgr. 837-7262

### BEEFY EX-TRUCKER

Rick \$60/In \$80/Out 921-8413

Cute, 21, 5'8", 145, Athl. Blt,  
7" cut, Blk/Brn, Does what U  
want. \$70. Jim 456-1799 SAFE

Nice Body/Nice Guy  
24 Yrs., Compact, Very Tone  
Torso, Great Chest, Great  
Sexy Energy w/o the Hype.  
Alen 487-1621

Enemas, Catheters, Safe Butts  
Work & Other Kink With  
Lt. Bondage. Dale 861-8888

Spanking • 773-9130 • Paddling



## JET SET

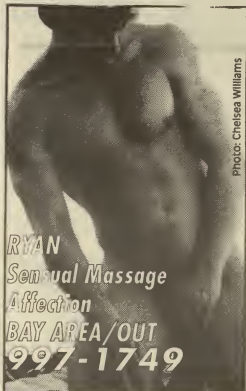
MALE ESCORT SERVICE  
THE CITY'S INCREDIBLY HOT MEN

\$150/ HOUR  
415-219-0275  
24 HOURS

Experienced Top  
All Scenes Considered  
36 y/o, Masculine, Handsome  
Well Hung. 703-0845 24 Hrs.

### NY.Y RICAN

Butch, Hot, Hung  
Danielo 285-4046



RYAN  
Sensual Massage  
Affection  
BAY AREA/OUT  
997-1749

### STALLION

Bpr. 807-5690  
Foot Fetish—Hi-Tops, Socks  
boots, bare. Bpr. 834-8170

XXX-PIX FREE  
(213) 874-1859

X-Army Sgt. 6'4", 195 lbs.  
hairy. Chuck 431-1579

### 9" PARTY GUY

Call: 775-4771 24-hours



TALL  
HAIRY  
HUNG

863-4847

YOUNG BOY  
YOUNG BOY  
9X6" HORSE HUNG  
VERBAL • BLOND • SMOOTH  
DANIEL 267-6153

### HOT TOP MAN

6', 160 Lbs., 40 Y/O  
FF CBT SLING  
SPANKING CHAINS  
BONDAGE TOYS  
S/M  
Limits Respected  
Will 922-8992

If you want to please a  
tall, Hairy chested stud with  
size 12D feet, call  
JOHN 979-6898  
NEVER IN A HURRY

### ITALIAN BODY

B/Builder, 230 Lbs.,  
6'1", 50" Ch, 20"A,  
25 Years Old  
From Italy  
207-9337

### ★ STAR STUDS ★

#### The Bay Area's Discreet Service

Offering excellent Escorts who care  
and can perform. Cute young guys  
19+. ROCK HARD gym studs.  
Certified Masseurs + S/M.  
All waiting for you.

Jim ★ 558-9688



### EAT AT PETE'S

6'2", blind/blu, masc, hung  
861-5827  
Low Hangers

6'2", 235 lbs., Blk BB, Super Safe  
Exhb Muscle Worshp.  
52" C, 21"A, Mega Dk.  
11"x8" 863-4848  
or dble up with my tall, hry  
hung buddie. Straight/BI OK

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS  
Gloves, kinky, Andy. 5'9", 175  
stache. 861-2668. Sling.  
Movies. Exper. Safe. \$70  
Orig FF Tapes \$50.

### Forget Campus & Nob Hill! PRIVATE SHOW

Erotic J/O Strip  
Hot, Hung! Matt 552-7224

### Happy New ★ Year!!! ★

from the Bay Area Reporter

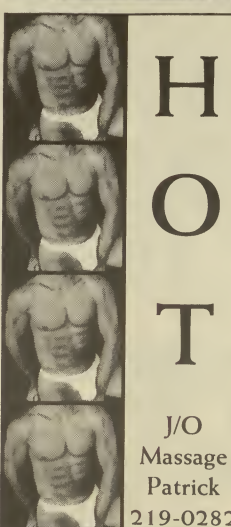
### cute redhead boy

Eric 415-998-0846



### HOT ITALIAN

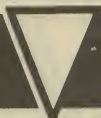
6'2", 185, 8 1/2 x 6, 26 y/o  
Serving All Bay Areas  
(415) 861-6027



H  
O  
T

J/O  
Massage  
Patrick  
219-0282





# People and Personals

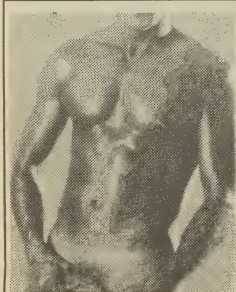
## MODELS & ESCORTS



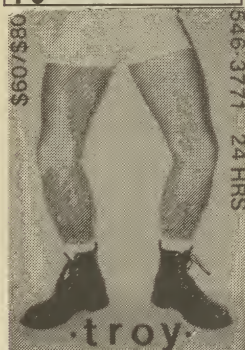
**BOY OH BOY**  
Blonds! 607-8672

### RODEO COWBOY

5'9", 150 Hot Pistol  
A Warm Bearded Handsome  
muscular, masculine  
man w/a soft  
southern drawl and  
strong lovin' arms  
will ride you way  
off into the sunset  
& make your cowboy  
dreams come true.  
Have Chaps—Will travel  
No Time Limit.  
**TRAVIS**  
(510) 614-9788



**Hot Bronzed Stud**  
pg. 415-207-2516



546-3771 24 HRS  
\$60/\$99  
troy

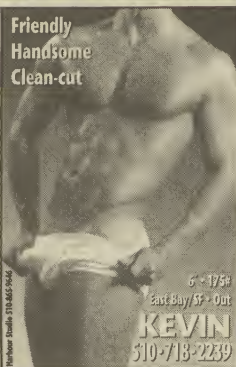
### ASIAN BOY TOY



**CLIFF** 560-1480



**SPANKING  
BONADGE  
FF-TT  
SLING  
HOT DAD  
MARK**  
**\$50**  
776-3805



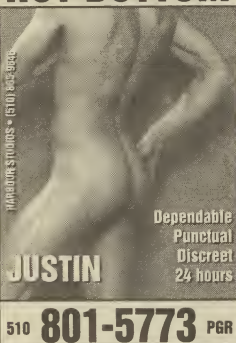
**Friendly  
Handsome  
Clean-cut**  
5'10" 175#  
East Bay SF • Out  
**KEVIN**  
510-713-2239

### For Your Pleasure...



708-2209

### HOT BOTTOM



**JUSTIN**  
Dependable  
Punctual  
Discreet  
24 hours  
510 801-5773 PGR

27 y/o, 185 lbs., Masc, Clean ct,  
friendly, Castro area. New face,  
very charming. 24 Hrs.  
\$100.00 James 487-1735 10"

"MORE" FOR LE\$  
Fine 10" Stud — New to SF  
Chris 626-9281


50's, 6', 200#, Tatts; Beard  
Agr. Top, Rings, Playroom  
Callback 648-0216 ABE

### MUSCLE DADDY

9X6 UNCUT TUBE!  
6'3", 220 lbs., of the most  
masculine, most muscular,  
straightest lean beef-  
buffed body that you want!  
Explore the fantasy!  
Rod. Outcall Only. Call:  
Bpr. 677-4718

### SEXY GUY

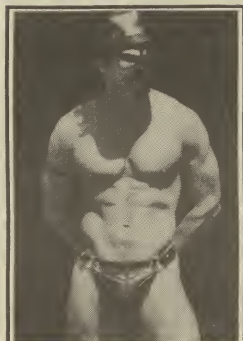
Hung 9" and the Hottest



775-4771 24 Hours



**SEXY  
BLOND**  
eye/wknds • out  
**Sean** 978-6161



**TONY**  
A Man's Man  
487-1379

### French-Can. Porn Star



9x7, Huge, 10" Hange!  
**Michel** 621-3950

Punkrock Top Rockhard 8x6  
Hungry? Adam! 202-6154 602

### HANDSOME MAN

Tall, Masc, Hairy, Blond  
24 Hrs. CAL. 431-8209

### ITALIAN HUNK

Buffed, Hairy. Chris 292-2439

### AFFECTIONATE

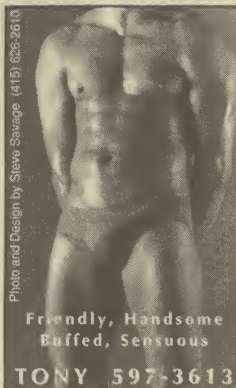
Hot Young Man  
Chris 565-8107

••Tits•773-9130•Nipples••

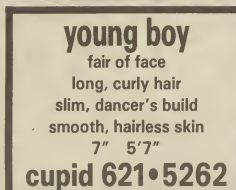
### HUGE 9 X 6

Bi Stud Kicks Back For  
Oral Service. 6'11", 180 lbs.,  
Bl, Bl, Hot Body. Dominant,  
Verbal, Out Only, 24 Hrs.  
**BRENT** 739-9689 PGR.  
Punch in #.

**B.A.R.  
classifieds  
get results!!  
Call  
(415) 861-5019**



**Friendly, Handsome  
Buffed, Sensuous**  
**TONY** 597-3613



**young boy**  
fair of face  
long, curly hair  
slim, dancer's build  
smooth, hairless skin  
7" 5'7"  
**cupid** 621-5262

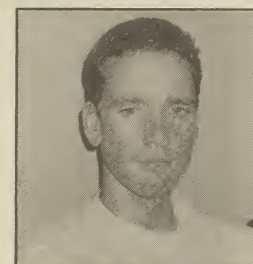


**GOURMET  
BRATWURST**  
German, 8" uncut,  
sensuous, drug-free  
and safe.  
**PHILLIP**  
\$100  
**487-1133**

26 y/o, 6'4", 190#  
TOP  
510-938-9160 702-5570 Steve

Big Hairy Muscled Cuddler  
Treats U Right, No Attitude!  
Robbie 861-2849

**AUTHENTIC  
BUFFED HUNK**  
Sexy Body  
Handsome / Intimate  
**DOLPH**  
page 415/954-3766




6' 80# 26 y.o.  
all natural  
model  
997-7291



**KURT**  
998-6514 \$100



**S.F.  
STUD**  
handsome,  
friendly,  
boy  
nextdoor.  
**TIM**  
905.5828  
25yr. 6' 2" brown blue 8"

### TRUCK DRIVER

40, 6'5", 250, big lugnuts,  
needs crankshaft work! 1st  
timer OK. \$80 Ed 679-3680

Hunky 'n Hot  
Black Bodybuilder  
(415) 487-6319 Jim

Sexy Blond Boy  
JO & WS  
YOUNG & HOT  
Jason 252-7092

### HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO

29, Smooth & Muscular For  
Striptease or Massage  
Alan (415) 626-7410

### FIST

Sling, Toys, Rim-Seat  
Handsome, 34, 6'4", 175  
FF, TT, Scat.  
**AI** 998-5508

### You'll Go

### WOOF!

for this smooth, built, 25 yo,  
**BLOND STUD PUP**  
5'11", 170#, 8 1/2"  
**THICK & HARD**  
Verbal, fun, nice to nasty!  
Playroom + toys. 280-1719



**Tall. Dark. Handsome.**  
Italian. 807-3909







# BarTalk

## PERSONALS

BarTalk ads are active from Jan.6-12. Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones. Each call is just .98¢ per minute. You must be at least 18 years old.  
1-900-844-2227

### Women!

Here is how to place a BarTalk Personal ad.

#### The Basic Formula:

1

First describe yourself. Be honest, so you don't waste your time, or anybody else's.

Then state what you are looking for. Be specific, but keep in mind that if you're too specific you may limit your responses.

2

3

Now that you are in control, list the things you enjoy most.

It's fun to end an ad with a suggestion on where you would like to go, or what you would like to do when you meet.

4

Have Fun!

#### Women seeking adventure

Fuck me, suck me make me scream!! Hung sweet Cuban Dyke Jew looking for playmates and friends. Safe sex only DS-MS pref. I Switch. EXT 1801.

You are a cute little boy in panties. Dressed up you're passable. I want to tease you and I want to fuck you. EXT 1802.

28yo, 5'11", 125, African American Lesbian soft, butch, nice looking wanted btw 25-35, athletic build, sex machine lesbian, any race, lets have coffee. EXT 1886.

#### Men seeking relationships

Artist sks guys under 40 for day and eve fun. WM, br/hzl/, 155, 5'10", HIVpos. Into movies, music, fun and sex. Let's hang out. EXT 1869.

Masculine, affectionate, handsome looking for top for dating. I love Italian, masculine men. Give me a try. Let's date, have fun. EXT 1870.

GWM, E Bay, 44yo, 170, Br/Bl, 5'10", HIVneg, N/S seeks same for fun and possible LTR. Been told I look yngr. You blonde? A plus. EXT 1871.

Attr WM, 6'1", 180, 37 seeks slim, smth boyish yng pal. Love to eat ass and be eaten. Cum all over my face then cuddle all night. EXT 1872.

Big guy 6'3", 285, GWM, average looking, relationship oriented, trying to find GA or LM. Likes movies, quiet times. Looks not imprnt. EXT 1873.

Are you a chubby GW/LAM over 35, jovial, gd natured, caring who is seeking a tall, 235, nice GAM?? This could be it! Call. EXT 1874.

Chuck Connors type, gd/king top, 40, 6'2", 210, hung, short hair, shadow beard. You : Healthy, skinny, short hair, bottom, W/LM for deep fucking. HIVpos. Smoker. EXT 1875.

I'm 31, handsome, 5'11", HIVneg looking for friend with a big love tool to party with my cozy love nest and more. Let's have fun. EXT 1876.

I'm a GWM, 45, HIVneg, good shape, nice looking seeking sex partner and friend for bedroom fun and games. If your HIVneg between 45-60, clean, oral, affectionate, and want to share other sexual objectives. Please call, I'm interested. S.F. or E Bay. EXT 1877.

I'm a GWM, 40's, looking for GW/LM, 25-40's. I like quiet times with my mate. Love making, doing things together, making out, someone who loves to be loved and can give love. I'm HIVneg - you too. Looks aren't everything. EXT 1878.

GWM, 38, 43c, 31w, 165, muscular, brd/stache, top, seeks oral bottoms into B/D, S/M, for sex, possible LTR. HIVpos and healthy! EXT 1879.

Attractive GWM, 40's, 6', 155 seeks trim clean shaven 25-40 for LTR, friends, hip and/or sexual Intimacy. Must be HIVneg. East Bay or S.F. EXT1880.

GWM, 39, hairy, husky, balding, mustache. 5'10", 190, seeks guy 20-30 w/attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. EXT 1881.

Mardi Gras - if you're going to New Orleans this year call so we can meet here, get to know each other, do fun things there together. EXT 1882.

37yo BB, 145, non-anal, relationship oriented seeks similar sincere nonfatuous man. EXT 1883.

GWM, 44, 6', 190, athletic, gd/king, HIVneg seeks similar men under 30for safe fun and friendship. EXT 1887.

Attr boy, 24, 5'9", 145, br/br, cute smile, warm heart seeks GBM who is honest, romantic and loves to cuddle for LTR. EXT 1888.

Gorgeous 40yo GWM, beautiful body, engaging mind, Seeds HIVpos smooth, clean shaven, uncut Latin men for sex, dating, N/S, N/D, expect same. EXT 1890.

Sacto area meet other gay or Bi. All races. EXT 1891.

Vegan Raver, 28, lean tan, energetic, long hair, HIVneg, ethnicity irrelevant- live a little - or .... EXT 1892.

Wheelchair guy soon to be lawyer seeks big hearted, high self esteem, sincere guy to share energetic loving happiness and life. EXT 1894.

50-50 FF, fit 58, 170, tattooed arms and ass,(both hot!)challenges handball partner. AM/PM, wk days/end, any stats. My sling. EXT 1917.

Healthy PWA seeks afternoon playmate. Me: GWM, 40, 6', facial hair. Let's talk. EXT 1918.

Hot in shape GWM, 31, Br/GR, 140, seeks hot muscular Man 20-45 any race. I'm fun safe, HIVneg, you too pls. BB a plus. EXT 1920.

Wanted: Latin for LTR must be HIVneg professional, like the good things in life. Me: WM, blond, HIVneg, smooth, Late 30's. EXT 1921.

GWM, 32, blond, stable prof seeks friendships, poss relationship. Not into bar scene. Contra Costa area. EXT 1922.

BM, 45, dom top needs hot WM buns, 45 plus to explore. I'm interested in more than a one night stand. EXT1923.

Asian, 27 looking for long term relationship. You are HIVneg, straight acting, a top only. Straight or Bi male, married man welcome. EXT 1924.

Hard bodied, mature, stable, young looking, versatile, 38, HIVneg, 5'6", 130 seeks sim GWA/HM for romantic fun and LTR. EXT 1925.

Wheelchair professional seeks to share life with a spiritual, athletic caring guy who can receive and give love and commitment. EXT 1926.

#### Men seeking adventure

Wanted: older GBM top sought by GWM, late 40's, 6' 190, gd/king B/G - you be 45-60 looking for fun companion cuddling, more. East Bay. EXT 1851.

Play cards? Smoke? Drink? GWM mid 40's lking for same. My place 2-3 times a month. Sex if both interested. Call- let's party. EXT 1852.

Smooth, fit BM, yng 40's, 6'2", masech and cut seeks E. Bay Black, Latin, Asian man for safe, discreet fun and lasting friendship. EXT 1853.

I'm looking for smth, hot bttrms. Me: GWM, 39, Br/Bl, moust, hry, hng, top, hot kisser. U R L A or brunette. Bttm, HIVpos. EXT 1854.

Beautiful Bi Asian, 5'6", 130, big exotic eyes, smth, wants to be serviced , then plow my butt. Into mild B/D and posing photos. EXT 1855.

Wanted: GWM into wearing Basketball hightops, running, tennis, cross training athletic shoes for hot, kinky, J/O, suck, ??? Sessions. Big feet a plus for big slutty Hawaiian. Call now! EXT 1856.

Send in a BarTalk Personal Ad. You may be pleasantly surprised.



Meet new people. Make new friends. Find a date, friend, or a lover. BarTalk Works.

Leave a message on The BarTalk Bulletin Board  
Call 1-900-844-2227  
.98¢ per minute. You must be at least 18.

BM, HIVneg, 59yo, 9'UC wants submissive, deepthroated cumfreak masseur. Older, hung, pro-sword swallower a plus. Your looks unimportant. EXT 1860.

Phone J/O with an 18yo hunk who is a butch bottom. Live on East Coast w/mom and dad. Need to call collect. Fuck me. Whip me on my knees. EXT 1861.

E Bay athletic WM, Bl/Br, 6'3", 40 seek other men, any race for adventure, fun, hot ,hard passionate sex and metaphysical evolution. EXT 1862.

Phone J/O only. 33, WM love locker room action in a jockstrap (sweat, piss, all raunch except scat) am 6', 170, 8 1/2-cut-BB. Having a lover allows phone J/O only. Must love jockstraps and be in one of you want to have a hot J/O call. EXT 1863.

Ass massage, lite spanking. ME: attr GWM, 43, 6'5, 280. You: Attr. GWM. 18-35, slim with nice buns. Submit to the hands of and expert. EXT 1864.

Paranormal experiences? Psychic? Esoteric spiritual pursuit? Me too! Let's talk. Blessed be. EXT 1865.

So. Alameda County young, horny, ready to explode? Straight appearing HIVneg male, mid-thirties loves to go down on younger dudes. EXT 1867.

Hot tanned buffed Blond into speedos, buffed men, HIVneg for hot oral play. EXT 1868.

GWM, 46, cut, hirsute, HIVneg, attr needs serious reg beautiful footed, verbal men to crawl, grovel to. E. Bay, but will answer all. EXT 1895.

34yo WM, new to gay scene need young GWM, 18-25 to teach me how to suck and be fucked. HIVneg, must be clean. Safe sex only. EXT 1896.

Leo's only! Attractive 46yo professional GWM, 5'9", 170 seeks GWM Leo, 35-55 for ongoing affectionate encounters in East Bay. EXT 1897.

Master, under 40, any race wanted by GWM, 40's, who desired to be a houseslave/personal slave to a tough, macho guy. EXT 1915

Hot long haired GWM, 27, Gr/p, Fr/a in E. Bay/Valejo/ Fairfield area seeks sexy black top to get high and have sex with. EXT 1898.

Lousiana White Southern Bell, Plantation whore! 40, 6'2", 195, wide round ass, healthy, gd/king. Wants big Black Mandingo with horse cock for lover. Cmon you big black buck! Tear my dress off and fuck by brains out! HIVpos. Smoker. EXT 1899.

Muscular Latin wants same. Prefer GBM, hung into body worship, power fuck, leather, verbal, discipline, domination, submission. EXT 1901.

Leave a message on the BarTalk Bulletin Board  
1-900-844-2227  
.98c ents per min. 18 plus only.

#### BARTALK AD OF THE WEEK

BM, 48, dominant top, HIVpos seeks submissive GWM, 30-48, for my use. You will be Gr/p, Fr/p spanked, whipped etc. Submissive, eager to please mature a must. EXT 1945.

Sex party - I want to get involved in one. I'm 28, 6'1", 173, very handsome, all American type, well built, hot safe sex. EXT 1858.

Bashful, hungry cocksucker wants to service goodlooking guys with big hard, cut cocks. I am 45, attractive and discreet. EXT 1859.

All I want for Christmas is a hot fuck by a Black top. I'm Black, 27, 5'10", 185, Serious about this! Got a gift for me. EXT 1902.

I'm musc, Asian, 28, 5'8", 172 looking for Blk and Latino only who are hung and musc, 25-35 and like to get busy. N/S, N/D, HIVneg. EXT 1904.